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34 nations discuss security conference agenda

Frankfurter Rundschau

At the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe all nations of Europe with the exception of Albania, Western and Eastern, neutrals and those with no specific alliances, together with the United States and Canada will be sitting down together to discuss ways of achieving greater security, more exchanges and the beginnings of true cooperation.

It will at the same time be the first endeavour of States with differing social orders to replace the confrontation that at present exists with cooperation. If this bold venture comes off it will be the beginning of a process whose consequences and outcome simply cannot be visualised today.

Preparations for the Conference which began on 22 November in the Finnish capital will show in themselves whether the actual conference next summer is likely to be a success or not. At the preparations, as at the Conference, the West has a weight advantage. It is represented by fifteen Nato States and Eire, with the enlarged EEC fully represented, of course. Then there is Spain, which has close ties with the United States.

For the East there are the seven members of the Warsaw Pact; Among the neutral and unaligned States are Finland, Yugoslavia, Malta, Austria, Sweden, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Cyprus and San Marino. The Vatican is sending an observer. Only Albania, which has close links with China, has rejected the invitation.

The Conference is the pet idea of the East Bloc and the West cannot be said to have shown excessive enthusiasm about it. It is still being regarded by many Hawks in the West with scepticism.

The Western Alliance only decided to give its assent to the Conference when it became clear that questions of European security and cooperation would be included on the day-to-day political agenda. Since such a life-and-death matter for Europe cannot be left to the two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union, alone and the subject could not be treated satisfactorily at bilateral talks between European States it was decided to take the bull by the horns.

Now it is quite clear that the main risk of this Conference will be run by the USSR and not the Western nations. Moscow is only too well aware of the risk.

All the central matters to be discussed at the Conference proper are on the table at the preparatory round now being held at the *Dipoli* Conference Centre in Helsinki. The preparatory round is to decide what type of conference it will be and what items are to be on the agenda.

The three main items on the agenda will be:
1) The principles of inter-State relationships in Europe with special regard to renunciation of force.
2) Military aspects of security.
3) Measures to promote economic, scientific and technical exchanges, the problems of environmental protection and cultural relations, including the step-by-step liberalisation of the free flow of people, ideas and information.

As far as all these points are concerned the most important bases of agreement and divergences of opinion are already well known and can be diagnosed.

With regard to the formulation of the principles of inter-State relations a great deal of rapprochement between East and West has been achieved at numerous consultations in recent months. The principles of the UN Charter are by and large reflected in the agreements reached. At any rate the Soviet Union is keenly searching for definitions that do not too clearly touch on the sore points of their intervention in the CSSR and Hungary. Thus papers in the East when writing of "non-intervention in the internal affairs of a State" add the rider "regardless of its political or social system."

Severe problems in this context are caused by two points that crop up repeatedly at the head of the list of Soviet demands. According to the words of the Soviet Ambassador to Bonn, Valentin Falin, the USSR seeks "confirmation of the inviolability of existing borders with lasting effect". The Federal Republic, on the other hand, prefers a formulation postulating the renunciation of the use of force with regard to the integrity of borders.

Since this Conference should on no account be allowed to become an ersatz peace conference the West is calling for the Conference to complete its discussion of this matter with a "political declaration" rather than a "convention".

The second tricky point concerns the Soviet desire to see the principle of peaceful coexistence written into the bases of inter-State relationships. But "peaceful coexistence" is not an expression existing in international law. Recognition of this, the West believes, would be tantamount to recognition of the special relationship of socialist States and their special relationship with capitalist countries in the foreign affairs sphere.

If signs are not deceptive the Soviet Union may be prepared to make some concessions on this matter, compromises that the United States wrung from them earlier this year in the basic declaration made following the visit of President Nixon to Moscow in May.

With the agenda item "military aspects of security" the Conference is venturing on to territory that is in direct link with explorations into the possibilities of mutual balanced force reductions (MBFR), a subject to be taken up at a conference of Nato and five of the Warsaw Pact countries at the end of January.

The West hopes that the Conference will have a complementary function to the complicated negotiations on troop reductions in Central Europe with "measures to build up confidence" (exchange of observers at manoeuvres, announcements of manoeuvres and troop movements). The difficulty is that the Soviet Union which is not completely happy about MBFR has also kept fairly quiet on this aspect of the agenda for the security conference.

The true significance of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and the chances it provides for improving conditions of life in Europe as a whole will only become clear when the third main item on the agenda has been grasped thoroughly.

All States in Europe want to bring about changes by means of increased trade with greater economic, scientific and technical exchanges as a tangible contribution towards detente.

Although the fundamental differences of the economic systems in East and West make cooperation difficult this is a factor from which all sides could profit – each in its own different way.

Heinz Ölzner, of the GDR sitting next to Detlev Scheel of the Federal Republic at the Helsinki security talks (Photo: dpa)

The field that can be ploughed up in this direction in Helsinki is immense. Planned cooperation ranges from industrial links, particularly in the sphere of fuel and power, transport, tapping sources of vital raw materials, the formulation of a fundamental treaty on capital participation in Eastern Europe, improvements in trading – with business contacts across borders made easier to arrange, tariff reliefs, information on pricing and entry to Gatt, right down to financial cooperation with access to Western capital markets made available and a discussion of the possibility of setting up an institute to finance East-West trade. In addition there would be the territory already largely explored with regard to basic research and applied research.

It is probably that the desire for greater cooperation along these lines is one of the main reasons for the Soviet Union and its allies to call this Conference and will be one of the main demands made by them. They want to profit from the riches and knowhow of the West. Inner consolidation is one of the main achievements the East hopes to make at the Conference.

The West should not and will not disrupt this. On the contrary, greater cooperation will mean a greater flow of people and this could lead to the kind of developments we do not even dare speculate about at the moment.

Another important point raised by the East concerns an institutionalisation of the Conference. The Soviet Union is concerned to confirm the continuance of the status quo in Europe and it is keen to set up a body that could prepare other conferences in the future. All this interests the West only very slightly.

The Conference will certainly not develop into any such body, but this does not exclude the possibility of panels being set up to look into the chances of arranging cultural and youth exchanges. The Swiss scheme for setting up a European "court of arbitration" will be an outsider at the Conference and may even be a non-runner.

With this conference Europe, and Europe as a whole, is entering into new territory. Many may be sceptical about it,

Continued on page 2

IN THIS ISSUE

■ FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Bonn's Far Eastern policy needs re-vamping

Frankfurter Allgemeine

Endeavours to bring about a peace settlement in Indo-China occupy pride of place in the capital cities of East Asia, so much so that other international issues pale in significance in comparison.

The powers that be in Taipeh, Manila and Djakarta, Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok and Rangoon well realise that the end of this dreadful war will mark the end of an era. Subsequent fresh developments will directly involve all countries in the vicinity.

Uncertainty about the future, scepticism with regard to ways and means of bringing fighting to an end and the hope that a successful conclusion will nonetheless be reached combine to make up a chaotic abundance of views and forecasts.

The equanimity with which changes in Indo-China are viewed in East Asian capitals comes as all the more of a surprise to visitors from Europe.

There cannot be said to be an atmosphere of deep unrest, let alone panic. The general attitude, bearing in mind the political situation, would seem to be a wait-and-see approach.

Ever since President Nixon proclaimed his Guam doctrine it has, admittedly, been clear that changes were in the offing. At the time observers may have been sceptical about the declared US policy of Asia for the Asians but the announcement of Mr Nixon's intention to visit Peking underscored once and for all the change in approach.

From then on American endeavours to bring about a peace settlement in Indo-China could not be viewed as other than the continuation of a new course of action on which the United States had decided once and for all as a matter of principle.

No matter how individual East Asian politicians may have assessed this process the conclusions they drew in respect of their own national policies tallied.

The most important conclusion they appear to have drawn is that national targets must be achieved for the most part under their own steam.

Many East and South-East Asian countries have no doubt felt their dependence on the United States to be most convenient. Even countries claiming to be neutral have borne US interests in mind in their political calculations.

A new situation materialised with the announcement by America of its intention of gradually pulling out of Asia. The countries concerned had no alternative but to reappraise their respective individual options.

This they have to a large extent already done and an embittered note in connection with the new US policy towards the Far East is seldom to be heard.

Laments that America abandons old allies as soon as the opportunity arises have long since ceased. The countries concerned are still confident of American aid and support; they have merely come to realise that the United States is no longer prepared to pull the cat out of the bag for each and every friendly Asian state.

A number of drastic measures in individual countries in this part of the world, such as seemingly totalitarian concentration of power and, say, the proclamation of martial law in the Philippines, must be viewed in this light. They constitute efforts to pave the way for greater stability.

In foreign policy terms no one doubts the necessity of US political and economic presence in Asia. It remains a prerequisite of peace in East Asia.

The powers that be have long come to realise, however, that US presence alone is not enough, China having emerged as a new factor in world affairs.

Leaving aside Taiwan as an exceptional case, all East Asian states have more or less overtly come to the conclusion that they must come to terms with the neighbour they have hitherto feared and maligned most.

Unless they come to terms with China the countries of East Asia cannot hope to keep the peace either at home or abroad.

In the process of endeavours to single out fresh political factors likely to contribute towards the balance of power and peace in East Asia attention has been drawn to Western Europe.

There is doubtless a link between this development and the uneasiness with which all East Asian countries view the meteoric economic rise of Japan. Worried lest they might come to be dependent on Tokyo, they are seeking to counteract this trend.

In conversation with East Asian politicians it struck the writer how anxious they were to ensure that the industrial countries of Western Europe do not, as in the past, restrict their commitments to trade, development aid and investment. They would like to see a stronger European political presence.

There are many reasons why special importance is attached to the Federal Republic of Germany in this context, one of them still being the limited extent to which Germany has in the past blotted its copy-book as a colonial power.

Neither this country's economic upsurge after the Second World War nor Bonn's initiative in trying to come to terms with the Eastern Bloc have failed to make their mark. In Eastern Asia this country would seem more than ever to be regarded as an ideal partner, and this view will gain increasing currency once the war in Vietnam has come to a close.

If Bonn is to make its contribution towards peace in East Asia it will thus, in close conjunction with the European Community, need to brush up and clarify a policy towards the Far East that so far has seemed a little on the provincial side.

Harry Hamm

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 25 November 1972)

Security conference

Continued from page 1

but at the consultations now under way Bonn diplomats have noted two developments that bear out cautious optimism. For a start these consultations, far from weakening the Western Alliance, have noticeably strengthened it.

The West has its little problems — the Irish show the warning light when there is talk of borders, the right of self-determination poses certain problems in Canada and the French hate the word "bloc" at any price.

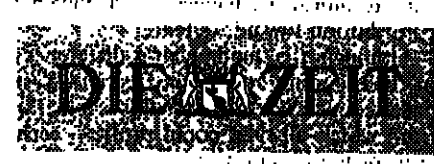
Nevertheless, "within the framework of Western European political cooperation the Conference has already led to one of the most fruitful discussions," a senior official at the Bonn Foreign Office stated. When it comes to brass tacks there is more unity than there would appear to be, in the light of France's efforts, to assert itself in Brussels.

Secondly these preparatory talks with Eastern European States have been marked by "extraordinary openness". We may assume that both sides want to come to a consensus. One thing, at any rate, is certain already — the Soviet Union has finally come to terms with the existence of Nato and the European Community.

Hans Kepper

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 23 November 1972)

EEC countries continue to seek common policy line



Hopes that the EEC would be able to reach a joint policy line on the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe have come to nothing and the conference of the Foreign Ministers of the Nine seems to have underlined quite clearly that expanded or not the EEC is not going to produce any miracles.

The desire to enter into this Conference on the future of Europe as a whole as a sovereign State was obviously stronger than the feeling of urgency about getting the full weight of the EEC behind the Conference.

Worries that blocs would be formed seem to have been given precedence over the fear that Europe would be divided when it came to making policies for Europe. The French and British as well are keen to march as a nation rather than part of a Community to Helsinki, and when there will not hold negotiations as a united force.

At any rate the Conference in The Hague has also made it quite clear that the Nine will not be blocked by the reservations of some members on sovereignty on all foreign policy matters. The expressed intention to strive for a joint Community line at the United Nations when the Middle East conflict is discussed marks some progress.

It leads us to suppose that there will be no quarrels along dogmatic lines about the possibility of an EEC foreign ploicy; but that in a few isolated cases only it is difficult to recongise this fact.

One result of this Hague Conference is particularly pleasing for the Federal Republic: the nine EEC members want to hold close consultations on the problems arising on the Basic Treaty concluded between the Federal Republic and the GDR.

This agreement will help prevent unpleasant surprises for Bonn from the contacts that are expected to grow between EEC countries and the GDR. Bonn can pass on to its partners encouragement or reservations about dealings with the GDR is, as expected, talks begin soon with East Berlin.

The agreement has once again underlined a peculiarity of the Community. It is still very difficult to find a common denominator for the reply to questions that affect everyone. However, when it is a question of an important problem for an individual member country solidarity is considered of more import. As all know, we can find ourselves alone at any time.

(Die Zeit, 24 November 1972)

Nato delegates meet in Bonn

DER TAGESSPIEGEL

Some 200 delegates from fourteen Nato countries attended a recent parliamentary gathering in Bonn at which a political and military reappraisal of the North Atlantic pact was undertaken.

Evident though it may have been at the conference that Nato nowadays has no option but to adapt to changes in the political scene, widespread hopes of a relaxation of tension fostered by a succession of East-West conferences on the agenda cannot be allowed to become the yardstick of military planning.

The sober calculations of military planners must still relate to facts and figures that continue to tell a tougher and more ominous tale than is currently to be heard at East-West political gatherings.

The growth in Soviet naval strength is alarming, for instance. The Red Fleet puts in an appearance on all the seven seas and represents a threat to Nato's Western European flank in the North Atlantic and the Mediterranean.

Europe is largely dependent on supplies from overseas and in the event of an emergency the Soviet navy could easily block the approaches.

With protection of oil supplies in mind the Nato military committee has recommended an extension of naval activities to the South Atlantic and the Indian Ocean.

Defence Ministers will probably retort that the current Nato fleet is insufficient to afford protection to zones closer to home, hardly being in a position to ward off naval encirclement of Norway or effectively block the approaches to the Baltic.

The political target of the Soviet détente offensive being to loosen the bonds between Western Europe and North America and so to shake Nato to its very foundations, leading Nato parliamentarians issued an appeal to maintain and consolidate the cohesion of the North Atlantic pact.

Danger from without represents less of a threat to Nato cohesion than does the prospect of internal dissension held forth by US neo-isolationists' plans for unilateral troop withdrawals and economic competition between the United States and the Common Market.

The one problem could be defused by means of the MBFR talks with the Soviet Union; a solution to the other will depend on Atlantic solidarity as a means of overcoming Western economic protectionism.

(Der Tagesspiegel, 25 November 1972)

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■ THE ELECTION REVIEWED

Willy Brandt – a man trusted by the electorate



Willy Brandt and Walter Scheel in jubilant mood after their election victory

(Photo: Keystone)

The almost unanimous international acclamation for Willy Brandt's election victory indicates the relief felt in both East and West, illustrating more clearly than was possible before polling day that the election must be looked upon primarily as an event of the greatest significance to international politics.

After Chancellor Brandt lost his majority in the Bundestag it seemed as if voters were to decide upon the future of the Brandt-Scheel government's policy of alliance with the West and detente with the East.

But this was a false appraisal by such men as Rainer Barzel, Gerhard Schröder and even Franz Josef Strauss. They too realised that the treaties with Moscow, Warsaw and East Berlin had instituted a policy that could not basically be changed.

The only point was that they voiced their objections to government policy so strongly that their true beliefs were concealed from voters. Politicians abroad were even less informed.

After a short period as an unknown quantity in the international sphere the Federal Republic once again emerged as a factor of political stability on 19 November.

It seems justified to assume that more people here register the fact with satisfaction and relief than is indicated by the number of votes cast for Willy Brandt and Walter Scheel.

It is difficult to say what influence foreign policy had on the election result. But past experience shows that the majority of voters are guided by whether or not they think a certain politician will achieve results on the home front. This was one of the reasons for Konrad Adenauer's successes in the fifties.

One thing is certain. Willy Brandt's international reputation as the symbol and guarantor of a peaceful policy based on understanding has also spread to the home front.

The Chancellor's policy of peace met with the approval of the overwhelming majority. Indeed, the really effective achievements of the first Brandt-Scheel Cabinet are to be found in the foreign policy sector.

Brandt may have started his term of office as a chancellor intent on domestic reform but a German politician can evidently only win a reputation as a statesman in foreign policy. As a reformer, he was more of a disappointment, especially among his supporters.

The idea also spread that alterations in social welfare policy could only be expected from a Chancellor Brandt and hardly from a Chancellor Barzel. This element of trust, which assumed the proportions of veneration in broad sections of the community, meant that the election unmistakably became a plebiscite about who was to head the next government.

Willy Brandt's repeated question "Aren't we all a little better off than in 1969?" in the end soothed people's inflations fears so much that the Christian Democrats were not able to captialise on their fears.

The peak of solidarity that the Chancellor and Helmut Schmidt were unable to create among the working population was in the end ensured unintentionally by unwilling allies.

CDU sympathisers flooded this country's newspapers with large advertisements, most with an extremely aggressive character, that evoked at least the impression of an artificially induced class struggle against the Left. This did the Opposition no end of harm.

In view of the high proportion of voters who went to the polls, the landslide in favour of the governing coalition has also created stability at home. SPD leaders also recognise that the no less sensational rise in the FDP vote indicates electors' wishes for a more balanced policy within the coalition.

Voters want Brandt as Chancellor, they want his foreign policy to be continued and they want reforms, though not reforms of an exclusively Social Democratic character.

It is logical enough to assume that the two partners have had their confidence strengthened to such a degree that they will now insist more stuboornly on their respective views being adopted.

Despite agreement in foreign policy controversy is inevitable over domestic, economic and fiscal policies. Past experience has however shown that the coalition will be able to stand the strain.

It will take the Chancellor a long time to forget his sobering experience with the excessively long list of reforms he planned. He was very cautious about making promises in the past election campaign.

But his personal authority has been strengthened so much by the election result that he will be able to oppose more extreme or one-sided demands with greater success than ever before.

The fact that the SPD was given a fresh mandate to govern will hinder rather than encourage a hardening of the discussion with the left wing of the party. Willy Brandt won the election, not minorities on the leftist fringes of the party. That does not mean an end to internal discussion but it does seem to rule out in-fighting.

With the CDU the situation is just the reverse. Rainer Barzel's defeat may be attributed to a considerable extent to his personality. His weaknesses compared with the Chancellor's charisma have long been obvious.

But the Opposition took this risk deliberately. It thought it could compensate for this by presenting Barzel as part of a team. It staked its hopes on its own manifesto, on government adversities and on the fears of inflation.

The populist party formed by Konrad Adenauer moved to the right instead of trying to capture middle-of-the-road voters. It is now thought of as an old-fashioned party, especially among the younger generation.

The SPD faced a similar problem in the fifties before it summoned up enough strength for the Bad Godesberg programme of 1959. The CDU will not be spared its own Bad Godesberg.

Its failure north of the River Main, especially in the industrial conurbations in North Rhine-Westphalia, imposes upon it the need for a little self-analysis which seemed avoidable after the overthrow of Kurt Georg Kiesinger.

Franz Josef Strauss' respectable showing will certainly prove an inhibiting factor. The varying fortunes of the CDU/CSU in the south and north may provoke conflicts endangering the existence of the party.

The Opposition will have to depend on its own resources when going through this process. Attention now centres on the Brandt-Scheel government's second term of office. It can now demonstrate with less interference than before that it deserves the confidence shown in it.

Kurt Becker

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 20 November 1972)

CDU clearly lost its populist appeal

There is a good deal of difference between the defeats suffered by the CDU/CSU in the autumn in 1969 and on 19 November 1972. In 1969 the CDU/CSU was still celebrating its victory far on into the night and it was only past midnight when the idea suddenly dawned on them that being the largest party in the Bundestag would no longer suffice.

When the SPD and FDP formed a coalition to obtain a majority CDU and CSU leaders thought this no more than a temporary aberration of history whose effects could not last very long.

From the very first the new Opposition battled to destroy the governing coalition as quickly as possible. Though they needed a little more time than originally planned, they seemed to have achieved their goal in September. The announcement of new elections made them think that the normal state of affairs in the Federal Republic — a CDU/CSU government — would soon be restored.

It is not only this attempt to regain power that has failed. Now that the SPD and FDP have again won the CDU/CSU will have to rewrite its history books. What seemed a temporary and unplanned interruption of its rightful situation in 1969 has turned out to be a lasting political swing.

The CDU/CSU is banished from government until at least 1976 — a total of seven years since it first went into Opposition. It cannot carry on in the same way as it did in the past three years but will have to adapt itself completely to its Opposition role.

That is not all. The latest election results should also make the Opposition see the writing on the wall. It is now clearer than ever that the SPD is increasing its share of the poll from election to election while the CDU/CSU is declining.

It is no longer possible to dismiss the possibility of the Federal Republic becoming a second Sweden with a permanent Social Democratic government that could be even more permanent than the CDU government in the first twenty years in the history of the Federal Republic.

That is why the CDU/CSU should not try to underestimate analyses of the election results. All statements made so far by Opposition spokesmen have been too superficial.

Even Rainer Barzel's supporters can no longer fail to admit that the party placed the wrong man at its head. But the CDU will also have to come to terms with the fact that though another leader might have opposed the trend more vigorously he would not have been able to stop it.

The party has lost its feeling for the wishes and beliefs of the voters which carried Konrad Adenauer from victory to victory in the fifties. It is no longer carried forward on the wave of public opinion but has been submerged by it. If it fails to conform to the political times the disappointment of 19 November will not be the last one it suffers.

It seems likely that the CDU and CSU branches that did relatively well in the election, above all Hesse and Bavaria, will try to put their own stamp on the party as a whole.

But that would probably be a mistake. It is for instance justified to ask whether the CSU put up such a good showing because of Franz Josef Strauss' policies or because it is a truly populist party in Bavaria with support from all levels of the population.

Despite efforts made recently the CDU is still a party of officials in many parts of the Federal Republic. It is not rooted in the population and it seems correct to assume that because of this it fails to possess the necessary feeling for the cares and worries of working people. The CDU, once proud of being the first populist party, must admit today that the SPD has replaced it.

The more profound reason for the CDU/CSU defeat is probably that it failed to understand in time the social changes taking place among the population. A new social awareness has gradually formed as generation succeeded generation, as more and more farmers left the land, as the number of workers increased, as technological upheavals caused more and more unrest and, lastly, as the influence of the Churches declined.

But the CDU/CSU thought that it was still dealing with the same electorate as in the fifties — with electors who think "nationally", who view Communism and inflation as the basic evils of Mankind and who hanker more after authority than participation in public life.

But this view of things is growing more and more distorted with the rise of a younger generation who are no longer influenced by these concepts. It will not be easy for the CDU/CSU to adapt to this change. Other parties — including the British Conservatives — have managed to do it. But it takes courage and fresh ideas.

Wolfgang Wagner

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 20 November 1972)

■ DOMESTIC AFFAIRS

New Bundestag faces busy sessions

The Seventh Bundestag is faced by more work than any other previous Bundestag. Only 328 of the 545 Bills submitted to the Bundestag since the 1969 elections were passed.

The remaining Bills will have to be submitted once again by the government, the various parties and the Bundesrat, or Upper House, and debated alongside other day-to-day business.

It is still not known for sure when the 518 members of the Bundestag can start their work again. The Bundestag administration believes that legislation will not resume until the beginning of next year.

"If things take their normal course, the new Bundestag will not meet before the week starting on 11 December," Harald O. Hermann, the Bundestag press spokesman claims.

The government has to adhere to a number of rules relating to the earliest time span that can pass between election and the first session of the Bundestag.

A provisional election result and the new distribution of seats is available on the evening of the election but the Federal Electoral Committee must meet under the chairmanship of the Electoral Director – this year the new president of the Federal Statistics Bureau, Hildegard Bartels, the first woman to hold this post – and carefully conduct a recount before announcing the official election result. Even the slightest error must be eliminated.

The official election result cannot be ready before 1 December. Then every elected candidate will be asked whether he accepts the seat. He must make a written reply and has a week in which to do this.

If an elected candidate refuses a seat in the Bundestag, the next candidate on the proportional representation lists replaces him and must also be asked whether he wishes to take the seat. He too has a week to reply.

The new Bundestag must meet for its constitutive session no more than thirty days after the election – this would be at the latest 19 December. The Bundestag administration assumes that the new Bundestag will begin its Christmas recess immediately after electing the Chancellor at its first session. The Chancellor will form his Cabinet during this break.

The most difficult and controversial piece of unfinished legislation waiting for the new Bundestag is the 1972 Budget which was not accepted by the old Bundestag.

Other Bills that were not passed by the old Bundestag will also be re-submitted. They include the second tax reform law, the penal code reform, the second amendment to the financial adjustment law, the framework university law, laws relating to pollution, the amendment to the age of majority and the divorce law reform.

These are only the most important Bills inherited from the Sixth Bundestag. There is a long list of other Bills concerning such varied subjects as non-military national service, administrative procedure, a total reform of the food laws and an amendment to the pharmaceuticals law.

Most of the other Bills left over from the Sixth Bundestag are routine matters which could not be dealt with because of the shortage of time.

This survey could give the impression that the dissolved Bundestag was not very hard-working. But this is not true. Members were given so much work by the government and political parties that even the full legislative period of four years could scarcely have been sufficient to carry it all out.

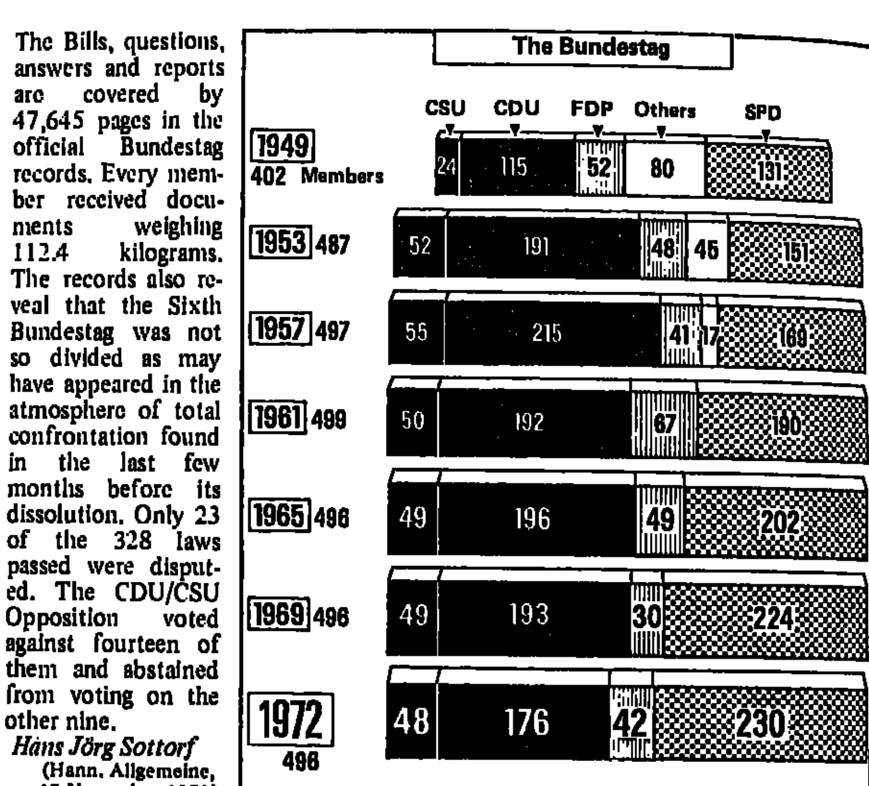
Statistics show that the Sixth Bundestag did work hard. In the 67 weeks in which the Bundestag was in session during the three years 199 plenary sessions were held. These lasted about one thousand hours in all.

A total of 31 large-scale and 569 small-scale inquiries were submitted to the Bundestag and answered. Members asked 10,828 questions during the regular periods of question time held during the plenary sessions. A total of 118 were classified as urgent.

The Bills, questions, answers and reports are covered by 47,645 pages in the official Bundestag records. Every member received documents weighing 112.4 kilograms. The records also reveal that the Sixth Bundestag was not so divided as may have appeared in the atmosphere of total confrontation found in the last few months before its dissolution. Only 23 of the 328 laws passed were disputed. The CDU/CSU Opposition voted against fourteen of them and abstained from voting on the other nine.

Hans Jörg Sottorf

(Hann. Allgemeine, 17 November 1972)



Brandt proposes appointing a woman to Bundestag presidency

Chancellor Willy Brandt has proposed appointing a woman as Bundestag President. Three candidates are available – State Secretary Katharina Focke, Annemarie Renger (both SPD) and Liselotte Funcke (FDP).

Liselotte Funcke has been Bundestag Vice-President since 1969 and seems to have the best qualifications for the post in view of her past experience. She has demonstrated that she can chair Bundestag debates and remain in complete control when the atmosphere becomes stormy.

It used to be the custom that the largest party in the Bundestag supplied the Bundestag President. That is why CDU/CSU members always held this post in the more than twenty years' history of the Bundestag.

Carlo Schmid had the stature for this post but as he was a Social Democrat always had to be content with the office of Vice-President. At the very time the way is free for him, he has retired from political life.

It would be a nice gesture for the strongest party to forgo its right and allow a small party like the FDP to supply the Bundestag President. The term of office of Federal President Theodor Heuss (FDP) demonstrated that small parties can also make important contributions to the State.

There is another minority that is not always considered when handing out the most important posts of State and society – women. A woman as Bundestag President, irrespective of whether it is Liselotte Funcke, Annemarie Renger or Katharina Focke, would provide evidence of more representation for this group, more emancipation and more democracy.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 21 November 1972)

Old hands make way for young members in the Bundestag

Politicians such as Karl Schiller, Wolfram Dorn and Joachim Raffert made such a spectacular exit from Bonn that the public scarcely noted the number of veteran parliamentarians who have now left the Bundestag.

When the new Bundestag meets, Käte Strobel, Änne Brauksiepe, Walter Hallstein, Carlo Schmid, Kurt Schmücker and Erwin Schöttle will no longer be seen. All of them were born between 1896 and 1919 and are now leaving Bonn to make way for younger members.

One of the oldest parliamentarians leaving Bonn is 75-year-old Carlo Schmid (SPD) who has sat in the Bundestag since 1949, most of the time as its Vice-President. Schmid was a member of the Parliamentarian Council which compiled Basic Law. As well as being a university teacher, a party politician and a minister, he also found time to write a large number of publications on political and juridical subjects and translate French, Spanish and Italian writers.

Käte Strobel, (SPD) was Minister of Health in the last government. Before 1969 this was the post held by Änne Brauksiepe (CDU) who was also responsible for questions affecting women in Kurt Georg Kiesinger's Cabinet. Both women had belonged to the Bundestag since 1949.

Emmy Diemer-Nicolaus, the FDR candidate for the presidency of the Federal Constitutional Court last year, is also retiring from political life.

Another person who is leaving the political stage is Hans Furler, who succeeded Robert Schumann as president of the European Parliament in Strasbourg, a post he held for two years.

Walter Hallstein is also retiring from politics. Hallstein was the "inventor" of the Hallstein Doctrine and the Hallstein Plan for the integration of the European Community. As President of the Common Market Commission in Brussels from 1958 to 1967 Hallstein paved the way for European unity. He was a member of the Bundestag for only three years.

Among CDU/CSU politicians who are not returning to Bonn are Kurt Schmücker, Ludwig Erhard's successor as Economics Minister and Treasury Minister still 1969, and Felix von Eckardt.

Von Eckardt was the government press chief who presented Adenauer's policies for ten years, accompanying his leader on nearly all his journeys and at international conferences.

Foreign policy expert Ernst Majonika, farmer Detlef Struve and welfare specialist Margot Kalinke are among the fifteen remaining members of the First Bundestag who left Bonn when the Sixth Bundestag was dissolved.

William Borm, at 77 the oldest member of the last Bundestag and the only Free Democrat member from Berlin, is another politician who will no longer belong to the Seventh Bundestag. Ludwig Erhard, now 75, will probably succeed him as doyen of the house.

Erwin Schöttle (SPD), for many years Vice-President of the Bundestag, will be leaving Bonn after 23 years. Hans Dichgans (CDU), the iron and steel industry representative, and trade unionist Georg Neemann (SPD) are also retiring from political life.

(Münchner Merkur, 21 November 1972)

	Election 1972*		Election 1969	
	Party vote	%	Party vote	%
Turnout	–	91.2	–	86.7
CDU/CSU	16,794,407	44.8	15,195,187	46.1
SPD	17,166,952	45.9	14,065,746	42.7
FDP	3,128,821	8.4	1,903,422	5.8
DKP (1969: ADF)	114,007	0.3	197,331	0.6
NPD	207,023	0.6	1,422,010	4.3
EFP (1969: EP)	24,167	0.1	49,560	0.2
FSU	3,176	0.0	16,371	0.0

*Unofficial results

Andreas von Schöler, 24, youngest member

Only ten members who sat in the First Bundestag of 1949 will be returning to Bonn when the Seventh Bundestag starts its work. Only 29 women members have been elected – 23 of them via the proportional representation lists. Three women were elected by a constituency – all of them Social Democrats – and three come from Berlin.

The youngest member is a Free Democrat from Hesse, Andreas von Schöler, who was 24 in June. Doyen of the House in former Chancellor Ludwig Erhard, born in 1897.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 21 November 1972)

■ INTER GERMAN RELATIONS

East Berlin hopes to dampen effect of East-West contacts

Socialist Unity Party (SED) leader Erich Honecker said, and his party colleagues repeat tirelessly that "Peaceful coexistence cannot be allowed to develop into some kind of ideological mishmash of the differing social systems in East and West."

In truth the SED fears not only the ideological but also the purely human mishmash. For the meeting of the twain, hundreds of thousands of people from East and West of the demarcation line, must have an effect on the awareness of people in the GDR of an entirely different kind of life.

Thus the Party is trying to erect thousands of miniature walls in its own hinterland, in the form of contact bans and self-imposed moral duties, so that its ideology will not be watered down when the Wall is breached, as it must be when the Basic Treaty between the two Germanies is signed.

Fears that the stream of visitors from the West could disrupt the internal stability of the GDR were expressed in East Berlin at Easter and Whitsun when floods of West Berliners covered the GDR as a precursor to the implementation of the Berlin agreement.

At that time the first reports of bans on contacts and fraternisation were heard, these applying to senior officials above all. The GDR was easily able to justify this by claiming that there are security requirements for those with classified information in all States.

But there is little concrete evidence to back up the fears of the more nervous Party and government leaders. Discontent about the chronic supplies breakdown in the GDR is not caused by chats with friends and relations from the West who are able to get what they want when they want it, but simply by the shortage of commodities.

On the other scale-pan there is the awareness of people in the other part of Germany that the possibilities created by the Berlin Agreement and the Basic Treaty and the greater flexibility of the new German Policy will bring advantages to all Germans – and these arrangements would, of course, not have been possible without the cooperation of the SED leadership.

Thus it is amazing that the campaigns of demarcation along ideological lines and the practical measures simply to prevent certain people meeting have been stepped up even more since Whitsun.

The SED is very obviously creating the impression that it is out to undermine the benefits of the Basic Treaty by cancelling them out with much more restrictive security measures within its own borders. If the Party was prepared to run the risk of creating an inevitable bad impression even before the general election in the Federal Republic it must have had serious grounds for so doing.

Three explanations are possible. Firstly it may be that the effect of streams of visitors from the Free West on the minds of people behind the Wall is greater than we in the West had previously assumed.

Secondly: the Party leadership may have had to make concessions to members of the SED Politbureau, who are less certain about the outcome of the new German Policy and also harder in their political line – in this context the names Albert Norden, Paul Verner and Kurt Hager are being named in East Berlin – so that a clear agreement to the Basic Treaty can be reached.

Thirdly it may be that the Party and State leadership is simply trying to regulate the flow of visitors and cars from the West, which has exceeded all expectations and predictions by far. From 1 January to the beginning of November, according to figures issued in the GDR 2,900,000 West Germans and 2,800,000 West Berliners visisted the GDR.

Probably all three considerations have a part to play. But the second seems to be the likeliest. At a conference on agitation and propaganda Erich Honecker cautiously defended his policy. He said: "It should be stated at this time that, however one expresses it, the new leadership of the GDR has shown the courage to take a calculated risk with the signing of the Basic Treaty."

Honecker did not brush off the interpretations being put on the situation by the West, although the first part of this statement could be taken as such a brush-off, but he added that in economics and politics "one must always have the courage to take a risk". At any rate, he claimed, the Basic Treaty came about first and foremost thanks to the GDR's peace policy.

The difficulties placed in the way of visitors do act as a kind of psychological barrier. But whether the Party can keep them fully implemented over the long run is dubious. The measures can be divided up into three general categories.

Firstly a carefully outlined and by no means small group of GDR citizens is not allowed to receive visitors from the West and may not rendezvous with people from the West at any location. These are senior officials in the GDR administration, in the civil service, in the parties, popular organisations and companies and senior officials in the *Volksarmee* and police.

Obviously the SED feels that these people are open to ideological brainwashing by contacts with people from the West and that they might divulge too much information about the inner working of the GDR.

Secondly there is a wave of "voluntary self-imposed duties" going through companies in the GDR and the public service. Even employees without any special function must undertake not to invite friends and relations from the West.

This measure has not really much practical value. For as the millions of visitors pour in even the most efficient security system cannot possibly police these people and ensure they are not opening themselves up to Western "ideological pollution".

The third measure, namely the self-imposed duty not to travel to the West even if this is permitted by the new agreement is firmly in the grasp of the SED. It is essential to apply to the authorities before making a trip to the West and there is no cut-and-dried to do so. The authorities can clamp down whenever they wish. In the past not all the OAPs who wanted to travel to the West were allowed to do so, partly from security reasons and partly to keep the whole thing within bounds.

We cannot yet tell what will be the consequences of this new-style policy of demarcation. Developments will depend on which factions in the SED gainway, those who feel the Basic Treaty is a bad thing for the GDR or those who stress its advantages. At any rate these latest moves show once again that it is wrong to expect progress to come too quickly in the SED State.

Joachim Nawrocki

(Die Zeit, 24 November 1972)



Roger Stock, 12 and Sylvia Grosse, 16, among the first children to be allowed into the Federal Republic by the GDR authorities being welcomed by their mothers

(Photo: dpa)

Children from East Berlin begin new life in the West

Sylvia and Roger were the first. They came by the same train from Oranienburg. At Friedrichstrasse station they were officially "handed over". After eleven years of separation they were back with their parents. For the first time Roger was able to embrace his "new" sister Peggy, 6, who was born in West Berlin. He had grown up in Oranienburg in his grandmother's care.

Of course there were tears. In the past eleven years the only time the parents had been able to see their son was on brief visits during the period of entry permits at holiday times between 1963 and 1966. Since then there have only been letters to keep the family together.

Time and again Roger's mother Rita Galetzky had applied to the authorities in the West and East for an exit permit for her son. In vain. The State that so often prattled about Humanism in its tirades of propaganda against the "Imperialist Federal Republic" shut its ears to any pleas.

Attempts by the German Red Cross to mediate were also fruitless. Then on 10 November there came a telegram from the Bonn Ministry for Intra-German Relations. It announced that Roger would be coming home.

Roger was one year old when he was imprisoned in the Eastern sector of Berlin. On 12 August 1961, the day before the Wall was built, his mother had travelled to the West to arrange for the family to cross to the Western sector. Next day she was unable to return and collect her baby. The Wall barred the way.

The case of Sylvia Grosse, 16, is similar. Her mother had rented a small flat in West Berlin. On 12 August she went back to Hennigsdorf in the East with the five year-old girl so that she could get through the barrage of red tape next day with less bother. Thus it was that Sylvia and her mother were separated for eleven years.

Sylvia Grosse and young Roger are the first of 32 Berlin children who are at last being allowed to return to their parents as a result of the policy of detente. In all 308 boys and girls should be receiving permission to return to their parents in the next few days. All have been imprisoned behind the Wall and looked after by their relatives for the past eleven years. But the list of those still separated is long. About 1,200 children are waiting for the news that they can at last return to their family.

The building of the Wall and the policy of complete isolation of the GDR from the West in 1961 had dire consequences for more than 3,000 children. Many were with relatives on holiday in the East when the barriers came down and the Wall went up. About one thousand were allowed to return in 1961. But the greater number had to stay in the East. Up till this year the East Berlin authorities had rejected all ideas of a general arrangement. Only in a few isolated cases was it possible to get these children back to their parents.

There was the case of nine year-old Jens-Mike Fochtmann from Hanau, which was in the headlines in 1970. His parents had made more than fifty applications for his release. Several times they applied to the then leader of the SED Walter Ulbricht. Not until the boy suffered a brain tumour and his left eye had to be removed was he allowed to leave the GDR.

Many of those left behind have grown up from babies to adolescents. It is uncertain whether they will ever return to their parents. Those over fourteen are supposed to be allowed to decide for themselves where they will live. Some have already come of age, many have gone to colleges in East Berlin and several have declared they would rather stay with the relatives who brought them up than return to their parents.

Initially it seems that GDR authorities are treating the various cases in differing ways. Many children have been given strong hints that they should get out of the GDR as quickly as possible. One mother said: "This was nothing less than being booted out."

In other cases GDR officials have been very kind and helpful. The children themselves are still in confusion. When asked what ideas she had about her future life in the West Sylvia Grosse said: "We'll see."

Willi Kinnigkeit

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 14 November 1972)

2,000 GDR prisoners released

About 2,000 prisoners released from GDR prisons are expected to arrive in the Federal Republic by 24 November. On 7 November the first batch of 180 released prisoners arrived in Herleshausen and a few days later another ninety came to this country, including a number of women who claim they were imprisoned for the crime of "attempted flight from the Republic".

Since 1 November when the GDR amnesty came into force 421 former prisoners fled across the Lower Saxony and Hesse zonal border.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 9 November 1972)

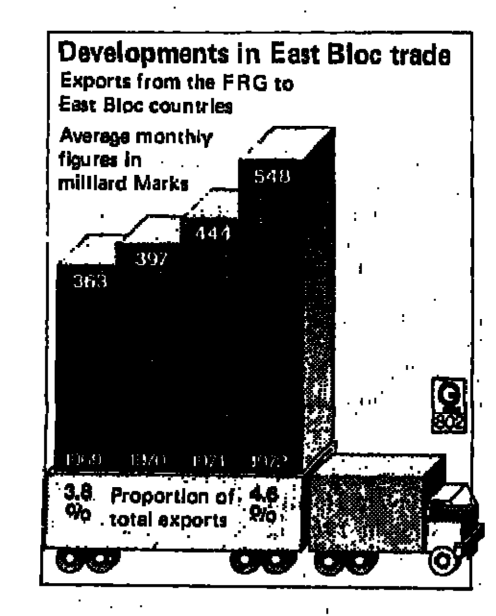
■ THE ECONOMY

Trade with communist States flags

The first trade agreement between this country and the People's Republic of China seems to have been brought to a satisfactory conclusion. There are only a few formalities to be cleared up before it can be signed. This agreement will bridge a gap in the Federal Republic's network of trade treaties.

It only remains to complete similar treaties with North Korea and North Vietnam. But from 1 January onwards the initialling of such agreements will be the responsibility of the EEC and not individual member countries. Despite what has so far been achieved this country's trade with the communist countries of the East is still of no major significance.

Growth rates have more than doubled in the last ten years, but trade with the communist world, and particularly Eastern Europe, is disappointingly low when one considers the enormous potential of manpower and technology in these countries.



The Federal Republic's trade with neighbours to the east is less than that with Switzerland although there are about 170 times as many people living in the East Bloc! These disheartening figures are contained in a recently published report by the Federal Economic Affairs and Finance Ministry.

The result of trade efforts in Europe are said to be just as sobering. Although the East Bloc is larger than the enlarged EEC with 350 million inhabitants as opposed to 250 million only 3.5 per cent of EEC trade is conducted with Eastern European States.

Developments on the graph of Federal Republic trade with the East Bloc over a ten-year period are by no menas encouraging. In 1960 4.7 per cent of foreign trade devolved to the East Bloc. Last year this quota had dropped to 4.1 per cent. But the result of absolute statistics is better. These show that this country's trade with the East Bloc increased from 4,300 million Marks in 1960 to 10,600 million in 1971. Despite these relatively modest figures the Federal Republic remains the most important Western trading partner with the East Bloc with a volume of 2,700 million US dollars. Italy comes second with 1,600 million dollars. But Italy seems bound to be overtaken by Japan in the coming months.

Cooperation between the East Bloc and this country must not be restricted to the exchange of goods. In recent years there has been a notable tendency for companies in East and West to embark on joint ventures. Bonn's Economic Affairs and Finance Ministry sets great store by this development.

Firms in the Federal Republic are already putting their knowhow at the disposal of Eastern concerns and are helping them cope with marketing and after-sales service. But it must be remembered that Western organisations are given great assistance towards breaking into Eastern markets.

East Bloc trade
Trade with East Bloc countries including China in milliard dollars 1971
FRG (excluding intra German trade) 3.0 · Japan 2.1 · Italy 1.8 · Britain 1.6 · France 1.5 · Benelux 1.0 · Finland 0.9 · Austria 0.8 · USA 0.6

To an ever-increasing extent skilled workers are coming from the East Bloc to the Federal Republic under favourable conditions. Typical examples of this are the opening of a hotel in Lüneburg by a Polish company and the running of Hungarian Ikarus buses in Hamburg on short hauls. The buses at present undergoing tests have MAN engines.

One important sphere in which cooperation is blossoming is raw materials. Our economy is increasingly dependent on a reliable supply of raw materials. Many vital raw products are available only to a limited extent in this country. About 25 essential metals and as many non-metallic raw materials rely on virtually 100 % inports.

Particular problems are beginning to arise as many of these raw materials are becoming scarce, and many may have run out completely in fifty years or so.

Thus it is essential to conclude long-term supply orders today with the countries that have large supplies of these materials. The Soviet Union is a prime case, with its large supplies of vital minerals in Siberia.

Jochen Rau

(Neue Hannoversche Presse, 16 November 1972)

Consumer spending helps the economy

General economic trends in the Federal Republic at present can be summed up as "on the up and up", but figures for in-coming orders and industrial production fluctuate greatly from month to month. But a general analysis over the past months shows that there a slight upward tendency.

However, certain branches of the economy still lag behind this overall improvement. Demand and productivity as a whole are increasing, although at a slower rate than in the first few months of this year when it seemed as though a sudden boom was on the way.

A glance at the jobs market where there has been a steady tendency towards overemployment for many months backs up the idea that the economic and industrial situation is good. But industrial capacities are not being used to an appreciably greater extent as yet.

The number of orders outstanding has, if anything, declined marginally in recent months. Over industry as a whole capacities are being used on average to 86 per cent. But at times when the economy is booming plant runs at ninety per cent of capacity. In September in-coming orders were 98.7 per cent of orders at that time being met and so outstanding orders are slowly being whittled away. The figures for the previous month show a similar tendency.

As during the last economic cycle consumer spending is the number-one pillar of the economy.

Of late sales of cars have improved more than the industry expected. Industrial experts reckon that a healthy demand for cars is a clear indication that the general public is not expecting a recession. At any rate a slump in orders for cars proved to be a reliable indicator of a forthcoming recession prior to the 1966/67 low!

Wage and salary increases in recent times and the Brandt/Scheel government's repeated guarantees of full employment have obviously given consumers the impression that the economy is likely to remain strong for the immediate future.

The Cinderella of the economy up till now has always been the capital investment goods industries. Despite the healthy demand for consumer goods investment goods industries have not so far seen the occasion as favourable for expansion. Now things seem to be changing slowly.

Demand for accessories and equipment has only increased very hesitantly so far but orders for machinery have increased ar a remarkably rapid rate in recent months. This can probably be explained by the need for rationalisation on the one hand and the feeling that the demand for consumer goods must sooner or later bring in orders. This is the supposition of the five economic research institutes in their most recent joint diagnosis of the economic and industrial situation in the Federal Republic.

These findings are backed up by a recent survey conducted by the Ifo Institute. Expanding demand for consumer goods and an above average growth in the raw materials and producer-goods industries, the economic researchers in Munich say, have helped to encourage investment, which has been badly hit in recent months by rising prices. As a component of total demand in the national economy it is exercising a greater influence in the economic cycle.

This boost to the economy, which should lead to increased investments in the coming weeks, will by next spring lead to 88 per cent usage of production capacities, according to Ifo estimates.

Continued economic optimism is being given a further lift by economic trends in our partner countries. This applies mainly to the United States, but also to other EEC States. This is likely to have a beneficial effect on exports.

Export prospects for 1973 show that the reluctance to invest is slowly being overcome. The effect of the economic pickup has been felt to widely differing degrees in the various branches of the economy, as statistics show. In-coming orders as against turnover are at 100.2 per cent in the plastics industries. Work in hand is thus remaining fairly constant. But for shoemakers the figure is just 47.2 per cent and in the furniture industry a mere 14.3 per cent.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 16 November 1972)

Bundesbank claims that there is too much money about

According to the Bundesbank in Frankfurt the effectiveness of monetary policies now being pursued is not "threatened by foreign trade loopholes" with rates of interest at their present international levels and with continuing prophylactic measures in force.

In its latest monthly report the Bundesbank does, however, admit that its most recent measures to combat inflation will fail if similar aims are not pursued by the makers of economic and financial policies. "The question is whether the territorial authorities' present budgetary policies are going the right way about tackling outstanding problems for 1973."

The Bank states that there is every intention of preventing the deficits in the budget from increasing above 1972 levels, yet the clearer the details of forthcoming economic problems become the more difficult it will be to pursue the aims outlined in the summer and early autumn.

All those responsible for economic developments, the Bundesbank feels, should make it their joint aim to restore stability. It will depend largely on the two sides of industry whether the rate of price increases can be slowed down.

"The more employers and workers make efforts of their own to stem the tide of inflation the surer will be the chances of cutting the risk of unemployment, which is always a factor in stabilisation policies if cost factors such as pay packets cannot quickly be brought into line with the change in circumstances, including pay," the report states.

On the other hand the Bundesbank does speak of "a slight industrial upward trend with production capacities being used to their optimum level and employees being used to their best advantage on a full week."

The economic trend is once again being determined by a high level of demand and a higher level of building. In recent months demand from abroad has increased considerably.

The volume of money in circulation in the Federal Republic, the Bundesbank stresses, is still far too great when compared with the real possibilities for growth. A long period with a much slower increase in ready money is required, lasting "until there is an adequate relationship between money available and the gross national product."

On the matter of the consequences of the latest credit tightening as a result of the one-per-cent increase in Bank Rate the Bundesbank states its opinion that interest rates paid on investments by finance houses will soon be revised. They are most likely to be raised if investors begin to turn to other formsof saving.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 17 November 1972)

The dangerous amount of money in circulation
Money in circulation in the FRG as at the end of July in milliard Marks
1968: 85.1 · 69: 93.1 · 70: 99.7 · 71: 112.8 · 1972: 128.8
Increase from 1968–1972: +51 %
For comparison Economic growth 1968–1972: +22 %

■ AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY

VW's South American branches are doing well

Since Volkswagenwerk, Wolfsburg, started getting the wrong kind of headlines last year the situation in the largest Federal Republic company has set on a steady course of stabilisation. The parent company is operating at a profit, it has begun taking on new staff again and VW boss Rudolf Leiding gave strong hints at this year's AGM that Volkswagen shareholders could once again hope for dividends of at least nine per cent.

But it still seems as if blue skies will not be seen over the Volkswagen factory again until 1974.

While the parent company is at present just beginning to reap the fruits of policy changes a while back many foreign subsidiaries are growing at a great pace, many of them exceeding the rate of growth of the parent company in its heyday.

A small group of Federal Republic economics correspondents have now had a chance to look round the American subsidiaries. The strongest impression was created by VW do Brasil, which has achieved an annual turnover of approximately three milliard Marks per year and whose productivity is expected to double again in the next four years.

In Mexico, too, growth rates of twenty per cent have been chalked up and the total turnover at present converts to about 400 million Marks. Volkswagen has cornered about two-thirds of the auto market in Brazil and one third in Mexico, showing what a strong position its subsidiaries hold in these countries.

But the most satisfying and encouraging achievements are the latest developments on the United States market since the parent company is immediately affected by US trends on account of its high export level.

Following the temporary import tax imposed by President Nixon, the alteration of dollar parity which made imports dearer, the increasing threat of Japanese competition and the growing number of American small cars on the roads the monthly exportation of Volkswagens to America dropped last winter to about 21,000. But since then the trend has again been upwards.

Sales figures in the past few months have been well over the 40,000 mark, a reminder of the good old days, and the latest from New York is that the Volkswagen management believes the firm is at last out of the woods. Originally it was estimated that exports to the USA would be down by a quarter in 1972, but it is now reckoned that this year's loss will be no more than ten per cent.

VW of America expects to break even on trading this year, but the subsidiaries in Mexico and Brazil should by and large make considerable profits. Trading at the subsidiaries is vital for VW shareholders. Rudolf Leiding said last year that in the light of the unsatisfactory profits chalked up by the parent company it was necessary to grab the subsids by the lapels and lift them up bodily. This he intends to do again this year.

On this visit to Mexico City member of the board Horst Backsmann underlines that the parent company has great expectations of its "daughters" when the initial phase is over.

For even these subsidiary companies are not able to push dividends sky-high. The tax laws in countries where Volkswagen has set up shop make the company pay up handsomely — shareholders can only hope to profit from not much more than a third of total yield.

Nevertheless all three subsidiary companies in America are expected to contribute handsomely to the profits of the parent company. Although the American company is only likely to break even Herr Leiding will be able to draw on profits made earlier by this company. VW Mexico will this year write off the remainder of the losses it made in its infancy and should make a tidy profit nonetheless. VW do Brasil, which is able to produce vehicles more efficiently than the parent company, also has a considerable sum on the debit side.

In the light of their rapid rate of expansion, outstripping anything possible in Europe and North America the subsidiaries in Mexico and Brazil are hoping to re-invest these profits as part of their programme of expansion. In Brazil, for example, dividends are traditionally converted into capital raising to a large extent.

Talks between the parent company and its subsidiaries in the next few months will decide how much of the profits made by the Brazil, Mexico and US plants are to be made available to boost dividends.

But it is not only the yield of the subsids that is improving the profits situation at the parent company. Brazil and Mexico both pay licence fees and fees for the services of advisers. Mexico is a particularly good customer in Wolfsburg. The Mexico subsidiary bought the rights to produce the Safari Land Car from the main concern in Wolfsburg and now produces this vehicle on its own for a world market.



The SP 1 manufactured by Volkswagen do Brasil (Photo: dpa)

Next year it is expected that 15,000 of these cars will be produced in Mexico with a 12,000 order already placed by VW of America for sales in the States.

It is surely a turnup for the book that the world's number one auto manufacturer, the United States, should place a large order for vehicles with an "underdeveloped" country like Mexico. Mexico will also be supplying the Federal Republic with these land cars.

Volkswagen even expect successes with this land car on the Chinese market. The head of Volkswagen de Mexico, Hans Barschkis, who has recently been to the People's Republic, reported on his return to Puebla, where VW has its Mexico factory, that excessive hopes of a Chinese market should not be entertained.

He said that China is planning to set up its own motor manufacturing plants in the long run. Volkswagen should not over-estimate the chances of setting up a Chinese subsidiary. But Barschkis reckons that it will be possible to supply the Chinese market with the Safari prior to the construction of the first independent car production plants in the People's Republic. Later on cooperation on a basis of licences should be possible.

For the time being further test vehicles are being delivered to China. These are adapted to the special requirements of that country. Barschkis says that the Chinese intend to pay for the Safari by supplying goods in return.

For this reason a technical commission will travel to China in January to sign order forms. The Chinese hope that their sales will counter-balance completely the supply of cars to them. Barschkis considers it conceivable that parts for the Safari could be manufactured in China.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 14 November 1972)

EEC car-makers' watchdog group set up

Seven of the largest motor manufacturers in Europe plan to form a joint organisation designed to work towards the production of safer cars causing less environmental damage. According to a statement put out jointly by Volkswagen and Daimler-Benz this "Vereinigung der Automobilhersteller des Gemeinsamen Marktes" will include the two Federal Republic car-makers, VW and Daimler-Benz, Fiat from Italy, Renault, Peugeot, and Citroën from France and the British-Leyland Motor Corporation.

The President of the new association will be the managing director of Fiat Signor Giovanni Agnelli. The supervisory board will be made up of the managing directors of the firms involved. This panel will be supported by a technical subcommittee on which the board members of these companies responsible for research and development will operate.

In addition a number of expert study groups will be set up, whose job it will be to handle technical problems as they arise.

The new body will be known officially as the Committee of Common Market Automobile Constructors. Its aims will be as follows: to exchange results of independent research and experiment with a view to improving the safety of vehicles and cutting down damage to the environment as well as a combined effort to create the scientific and technical foundations for this work.

Data handled by the CCMC is to be made available to EEC authorities as well as European governments so that these joint findings with regard to safety and prevention of pollution can be utilised to the maximum.

One of the main reasons for the creation of this body is that in recent years motor manufacturers have repeatedly complained about diverse requirements on safety and pollution. They say that they have wasted millions on altering models already on the production line to meet varying requirements.

(Bremer Nachrichten, 17 November 1972)

Top car nation

By the end of this year the number of cars registered in the Federal Republic will be 16.5 million, more than in any other European country. France is next with 14.5 million followed by Britain with fourteen million.

Italy follows with about 13.5 million, The Netherlands around 2.8 million, Spain approximately 2.6 million and Sweden roughly 2.5 million. The estimated number of cars in the GDR including East Berlin is about 1.4 million.

(Die Welt, 17 November 1972)

■ SPACE RESEARCH

Von Braun suggests European space organisation be set up

The man watching a lunar landing on TV in the window of a radio dealer's sounded a sad note. "They can fly to the Moon," he lamented, "but they have yet to find a cure for my rheumatism."

Many environmental specialists also take a dim view of space exploration. They feel it to be far more important to invest a few thousand million in depolluting the air and water than to further litter outer space with astronautical debris.

In view of the recent Paris discussions between Western European Ministers of Science, Technology, Aviation, and Space Research further conclusions must be reached regardless whether one is pro or anti (and the Ministers' views varied considerably).

Wernher von Braun is convinced that the solution to environmental problems is 80 per cent a matter of legislation and its enforcement.

Marcel Golay, the head of Geneva observatory and citizen of a small country with no ambitions in outer space, makes no bones about his point of view.

"Space research is relevant to all top-flight products, ranging from electronics to automation," he says. "If they are to improve or at least maintain their position all industrial countries must ensure for themselves a stake in space programmes."

Yet for more than a decade the countries of Western Europe have proved unable to reach agreement on a joint space programme. In 1962, in the wake of Russia's sputniks and American plans to emulate and outstrip them, two organisations were set up on this side of the Atlantic, one, Eldo, to develop launcher rockets, the other, Esro, to construct satellites.

A number of Western European countries only belong to one or other of the organisations. Others belong to both but are not entirely in agreement with their aims.

Each project is preceded by several years of talks between any number of governments about how funds are to be raised, who is to pay for what and which project contracts can be snapped up for home industry.

Wernher von Braun and the British have drawn their conclusions from this state of affairs. Von Braun, for instance, has proposed that a supranational space research authority with funds and powers of decision of its own be set up. It would be responsible for both planning and the placing of contracts.

Plans of this kind are all well and good but of little use at the present juncture. In Paris this country, France and Britain outlined conflicting viewpoints.

Bonn would like to call work on the Europa II rocket to a halt and abandon the Europa III project because the rocket will not be powerful enough to launch heavy payloads, not to mention its being far too expensive.

Instead Science Minister Klaus von Dohnanyi would prefer to collaborate in the US post-Apollo programme — on condition that Washington guarantees the provision of launcher rockets for European satellites.

America has so far refused to give this guarantee because of anxiety lest European commercial communications satellites set up in competition with the American Intelsat system.

In view of America's monopoly position and the temptation to nip European projects in the bud in order to safeguard the US aerospace industry France would prefer to carry on with work on Europa III and ensure that Western Europe is not dependent on American launcher rockets for its satellites.

France also points out that the American offer of participation in the post-Apollo programme has been steadily scaled down since 1970. At present 300 million Marks' worth of European funds would finance contracts placed with American firms that would stand to gain a great deal of technological know-how.

Europe would help to foot the bill and in return gain neither industrial contracts nor the technological spin-off involved.

For similar reasons Britain is also uninterested in participation in the post-Apollo programme. Britain is not interested in Europa III either, though, feeling that it would be less expensive to buy rockets from the United States or hire payload space on the projected Space Shuttle.

A modicum of hope is justified in the wake of the Paris talks. The Ministers do seem prepared to draw conclusions from past setbacks. At the official conference scheduled to be held in Brussels at the end of December they intend to come to a decision on the establishment of a European space research authority.

This body will coordinate European space programmes and, it is hoped, prove as successful as America's Nasa. Whether it will succeed in so doing is another matter.

In Paris this country's Klaus von Dohnanyi gained support for his idea of collaboration with the Americans but the French remained adamant on continuation of an independent European launcher development programme.

Hermann Bohle

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 13 November 1972)



(Photo: VFW-Fokker)

VFW-Fokker's subsidiary's Flying Bat

Two years ago people living on the shores of Lake Constance watched the antics of a new aerofoil that skipped across the lake at the speed of a motor car.

The Flying Bat, one of the nicknames it has accumulated during its short life, is now undergoing more strenuous trials on the heavier seas of the lower reaches of the Weser near Bremerhaven.

Even experts are amazed by the performance of the experimental craft developed by Rhein-Flugzeugbau of Mönchengladbach, a subsidiary of VFW-Fokker of Bremen.

The X 113 AM, developed under a Defence Ministry contract, has so far cost 1.6 million Marks, living to the full up to the expectations of its inventor, Dr Alexander Lippisch.

His X 112 left the drawing-board and took to the water and the air in 1962 and 1963 and subsequently gave birth, as it were, to the X 113 AM, developed by a design team headed by Dietmar Schönfelder, a young engineer.

The X 113 can now look back on 24 flying hours spent a speeds of between 70 and 140 kilometres an hour and altitudes of between two and five metres above the water.

"The advantage of the X 113 AM," Schönfelder explains, "is that with its wing-span of 5.89 and length of 8.55 metres it can easily fly at heighs of between thirty and forty metres and is equally easy to manoevre.

"Unlike similar craft in England the X 113 AM can also swiftly and easily steer clear of obstacles on the water surface," the project engineer continues.

Aerofoil designers feel that their craft will prove particularly useful in local transport. In developing countries and parts of the world such as Canada, Sweden and Australian coast where there is no shortage of water and flying boats are already an important means of transport craft such as the X 113 AM could prove extremely useful.

But the X 113 AM project has reached completion and further work on a six-seater aerofoil will be needed if progress is to be continued. It remains to be seen whether the two million Marks needed for further research will be forthcoming

Karl Morgenstern

(Neue Hannoversche Presse, 14 November 1972)

Europe III project will take 7 years to develop

Launcher rocket development in Europe has not been a roaring success. Europa I failed to progress beyond the experimental stage and Europa II has obstinately refused to put a payload into orbit.

Both were commissioned by Eldo, the European Launcher Development Organisation, and there was no shortage of either money or engineering know-how to bring the project to a successful conclusion.

The reasons why neither project has proved a success are complex and detailed and beyond the scope of this article.

Erno space technology division of Bremen was responsible for the construction of the third stage of the Europa I and II rockets and notes in a report that in four of the nine attempted launchings of the Europa I failures were registered in all stages of the rocket.

All nine failed to get off the ground and the reasons must be sought in the background to the entire project.

France's *Véronique* and Britain's *Blue Streak* were both put at Eldo's disposal. Single-stage rockets up till then developed independently of one another, they were superimposed on one another, the smaller Véronique atop the Blue Streak, and the third stage — as much as the two others could carry between them — had to consist of both an orbital rocket and the satellite payload.

In other words, Erno had to construct a small rocket in which every gramme saved counted, yet the rocket had to remain powerful enough to put a satellite into orbit.

This third stage, it is generally acknowledged, was a technological wonder, its tanks housed in a sphere of wafer-thin titanium and the casing of the whole stage being not much thicker than a razor blade.

The Europa I, with its launching pads in Woomera, Australia, was followed by the Europa II, for which launching facilities were built at considerable expense in Kouru, French Guiana.

A year ago, on 5 November 1971, Europa II was scheduled to take off at 10 a.m. local time. The countdown progressed without further difficulties and the take-off was a success too, but the second stage exploded 161 seconds after take-off.

The cause of failure was a steering system breakdown. All systems of this country's third stage have so far functioned smoothly.

Against this background the Europa III has been designed as a completely new two-stage project intended to enable Europe to put commercial payloads into orbit independently of the United States.

The satellites involved will perform atmospheric inspection duties and facilitate telephone services, communications exchange and other purposes.

A decision in favour of the Europa III concept was reached as long ago as 1970 on the basis of theoretical work and experimental trials.

The Europa III will be 40 metres long, 3.80 metres in diameter, consist of two stages with a take-off weight of 190 tons and be capable of putting a 750-kilogramme satellite into a geostationary orbit.

It will take an estimated seven years to develop and development costs including five trial launchings are reckoned to be in the region of 500 million dollars.

The launcher rocket is to be built by France and this country. The first stage will be developed by Aerospatial in France, with a sub-contract to MAN of Munich.

The second stage will be supervised by VFW-Fokker and Erno of Bremen. Work on the propulsion system of this second stage is to be carried out by a Franco-Federal Republic consortium.

According to Erno a high-powered third stage will enable payloads of up to 1,400 kilogrammes to be put into a 24-hours orbit. With the aid of component standardisation, simplicity and utility the Europa III rocket is claimed to the both economically advocable and guaranteed to succeed.

Currently some ten European firms have commissioned by Eldo to work on the so-called project definition phase. This includes specification of systems and ground equipment, development work on critical components, development and cost planning, the recruitment of engineering teams and detailed distribution plans for the various stages of the project.

Five firms largely responsible for the Europa III programme, among them Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm and VFW-Fokker of this country, are preparing for the establishment of a company that will assume responsibility for and supervise development and construction of the rocket.

Erno are to carry out all work on the second stage and will thus have a substantial stake in this new European project.

M. Retzlaw

(Bremer Nachrichten, 11 November 1972)

■ **WRITING**

Translators discuss problems of their work in Bad Boll

Samuel Beckett wrote his novel *Watt* in English, later translating it into French, a language that he has long used for his other works. This translation could be described as authentic.

But what does authentic mean in view of the heterogeneity of languages with their varying histories of development? This can only be examined by taking the special case which illustrates the general.

Questions which seem to be involved solely with the problems of translation also touch upon linguistic and literary theory. Beckett's translation reveals what is meant.

In one paragraph contained in the original English work the past participle "told" occurs four times in quick succession. The French translation renders the word with four different, though synonymous words.

Elmar Tophoven, the man who translates Beckett into German, cited this example during a talk he gave at the fifth Translators and Linguists Congress held in Bad Boll and asked why this should be the case.

Professor Mario Wandruszka, a linguist now teaching in Salzburg, attributed the two principles of repetition in the English text and variation in the French version to the varying stylistic and rhetorical traditions existing in the two languages. As a translator, Beckett adheres to French stylistic tradition.

This poses the question whether a translation should retain the alien features of the original or whether it should read as if it were the original. The question has been put by Wilhelm von Humbolt, Goethe, Schleiermacher and, in more recent times, by Walter Benjamin.

The general consensus arising at translators congresses in recent years adheres to Walter Benjamin's view that a translation of a literary work must allow the original to peep through.

Peter Handke came to the congress to read excerpts of his novel *Die Angst des Tormanns beim Elfmeter*. His translators then read the same excerpts in French, Italian, Dutch, English, Swedish and Serbo-Croat.

This spotlighted the same problem even though the question of authenticity was first of all only asked in regard to the preservation of local colour. What does an Italian translator do for example when confronted by words like *Jausenpapier* or *Gabelbissenbecher*?

Translators depend here on their gifts of literary interpretation if they are to carry out the author's original intentions. They must recognise the function these words have in the context of the book.

Translators cannot rely on their imagination and linguistic abilities alone. To do justice to an author and his text, they must also make use of their literary sensitivity.

The day-long seminars dealing with the translation of colloquial idioms from English, French, Italian, Spanish, the Slavonic and Scandinavian languages into German were attended by lecturers from the language departments of Erlangen University who had carefully prepared a systematic survey of the individual problems. The results of these seminars will prove of benefit to any reader of translations – and what reader does not read translations at some time or another?

Since the first of these "Esslingen talks" five years ago – Esslingen was the venue of the first of these congresses – translators have cooperated more frequently with linguists in order to give their work a theoretic basis.

The translators attending the Bad Boll congress were therefore eager to hear what Czech linguist Anton Popovic would have to say to them. Popovic, who only came to the congress at short notice, works at the department of literary communication and experimental methodics at the Education Faculty in Nitra.

The translators knew that the work done by this department was based on that of the Russian formalist school and the Czech structuralists who led their field in the twenties and thirties and whose theories and research have been the subject of increasing interest in Western countries too.

But Professor Popovic did not have enough time to deal at length with the aesthetics of expression derived from the communications research conducted in Nitra. He turned instead to a number of specific problems, especially the shifts of emphasis resulting from translation.

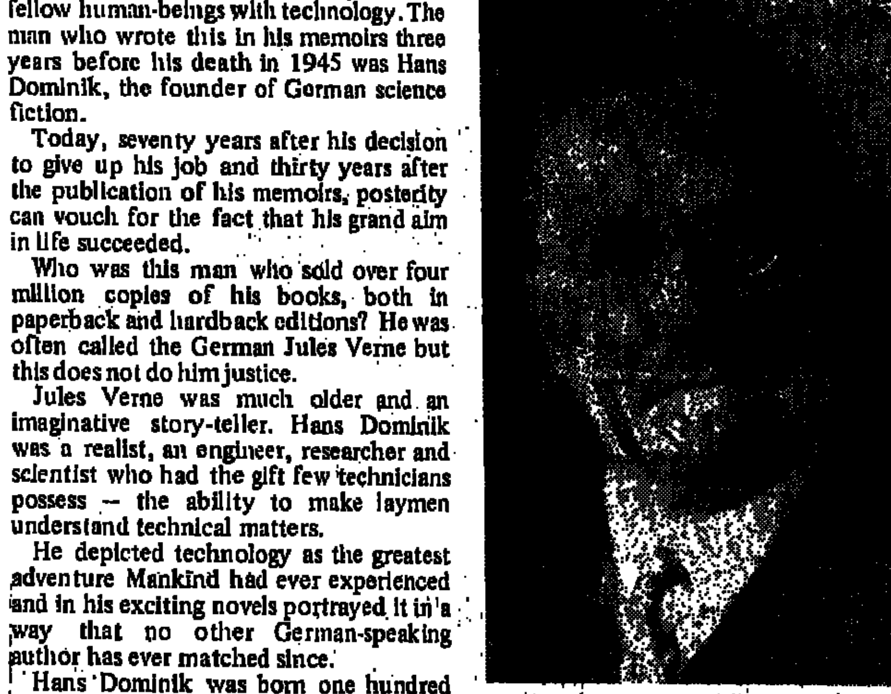
Popovic was only able to summarise the large number of meanings the term "expression" has in the overall theory developed by communications researchers in Nitra.

But as this theory claims to systematise the problems of translation and connect them with the questions of literary communication, it would be a good idea to learn more about them. Perhaps the next congress will provide a suitable opportunity.

Helmut Scheffel

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 8 November 1972)

Hans Dominik – Germany's first science fiction writer



(Photo: Conti-Press)

"I was accompanied by a variety of thoughts and emotions as I left the Siemens factory in Charlottenburg, Berlin, on 30 September 1901 with my last pay-packet in my hand. Would I achieve my grand aim in life?"

This grand aim was to acquaint his fellow human-beings with technology. The man who wrote this in his memoirs three years before his death in 1945 was Hans Dominik, the founder of German science fiction.

Today, seventy years after his decision to give up his job and thirty years after the publication of his memoirs, posterity can vouch for the fact that his grand aim in life succeeded.

Who was this man who sold over four million copies of his books, both in paperback and hardback editions? He was often called the German Jules Verne but this does not do him justice.

Jules Verne was much older and an imaginative story-teller. Hans Dominik was a realist, an engineer, researcher and scientist who had the gift few technicians possess – the ability to make laymen understand technical matters.

He depicted technology as the greatest adventure Mankind had ever experienced and in his exciting novels portrayed it in a way that no other German-speaking author has ever matched since.

Hans Dominik was born one hundred years ago on 15 November 1872 in Zwickau. He was the son of a bookseller though this did not predestine him for the life of a writer. Everybody must learn to ride even if he is born in the saddle, he always used to say.

Hans Dominik learned his trade from the bottom upwards. After completing engineering studies at Berlin Technical University, he joined AEG in Rhineland before returning to Berlin to work at Siemens.

He hurtled through Germany as a fireman of express trains, he worked in the engine rooms of small ramshackle steamers travelling between Europe and America and was an adviser in the research laboratories of the largest German electrical concerns, Siemens and AEG.

Dominik invented a special ball-bearing which was patented and proved successful and, together with the son of Berlin newspaper publisher August Scherl, developed the first monorail system which travelled at ninety kilometres an hour in Berlin in 1909.

He had another connection with the Scherl concern too. The publishing house had him under contract from 1905 to the end of World War II and almost all his novels were published there.

Hans Dominik also worked with Otto Hahn and Lise Meitner. He developed tape-recording equipment in Berlin when German radio was born almost fifty years ago. Hans Dominik was an editor-in-chief and contributed to 22 specialist journals dealing with electrical engineering and physics.

That was his actual research and development work. It was from this quarter that he got his ideas for his science fiction novels, the first of which, *Die Macht der drei*, appeared in 1923.

Fifteen other books were published in the next twenty years, all of them dealing with the one basic theme that gradually matured. Hans Dominik never left the realms of physical science despite all his merits as a story-teller. That is what has made his works so popular.

He predicted the control of atomic energy in his novels *Die Macht der drei, Brand der Cheopspyramide, Atomgewicht 500*, and *Himmelskraft*. He foresaw space travel in *Erbe der Uraniden* and *Treibstoff SR*, considered today to be one of his most important novels. *Flug in den Weltraum* described what was to be achieved by East and West in the space travel sector. He also forecast the development of the synthetics industry in *Kautschuk*, written half a century ago.

These are only a few of the books published by this prolific writer and inventor. Dominik died in his Berlin home on 9 December 1945. But he lived long enough to see the exploding of atomic bombs over Hiroshima and Nagasaki. He did however prophesy the peaceful exploitation of atomic energy as well!

August Scherl

(Kieler Nachrichten, 9 November 1972)

Giorgio Strehler awarded Goethe Prize

The Goethe Prize awarded annually by the F.V.S. Foundation, Hamburg, for outstanding performances in the arts was recently presented in Hamburg's Musikhalle to Italian theatre director Giorgio Strehler.

Strehler is in charge of the Piccolo Teatro in Milan and has made a name for himself since the war as the rediscoverer of Goldini and one of the first producers to popularise Bertolt Brecht in Italy.

The F.V.S. awarding committee described Strehler as the pioneer of new ways, who treats dramatic art as an essential means of education and who, in a modern and closer exchange of thoughts between the German and Italian spirit in the light of Goethe's idealism, has contributed towards the establishment of a social concept of culture along the lines of a new European humanism.

Professor Herbert von Buttlar, head of the Hamburg State Academy of Creative Arts, made the awarding speech. Von Buttlar analysed Strehler's most recent work, a production of *King Lear* which marked his return as director to the Piccolo Teatro in Milan after an absence of four years.

With this production Strehler had in many respects returned to his beginnings, von Buttlar claimed, to the time when he arranged a memorable production of T.S. Eliot's *Murder in the Cathedral* in Genoa shortly after the end of the war.

The artistic yardsticks for which the Piccolo Teatro deserves credit are basically the result of the symbiosis between legal training – Strehler is a doctor of laws – and theatrical practice.

Strehler's work was always based on exact sociological, historical and anthropological study, von Buttlar said, but it always went beyond this, forming a type of poetic realism rare in the modern theatre.

Giorgio Strehler answered with a speech about the realism found in the works of Goldini and Brecht, characterising his own theatrical activities with the aid of two quotations from the playwrights he most admires.

"I have only two masters – the world and the theatre – and I know that it is not the extraordinary that wins in people's hearts but the simple and the natural," Goldini once said. And from Brecht he quoted: "Every type of art helps people learn the hardest art – the art of living."

"Brecht and Goldini both lived in a society that was in a process of transition," Strehler continued. "For Goldini it was a transition from an aristocratic order, for Brecht it was the moment when nineteenth-century liberalism experienced its first serious crisis in our century."

Both of them considered confrontation with reality as an instrument of policy. Both gave a clear diagnosis of the society in which they were living, both possessed scientific faculties enabling them to provide an honest analysis of the social system and the courage to draw the logical consequences.

To speak today of Goldini and Brecht is not merely to speak of literature, Strehler continued, "but of that which I do every day and of how I do it. The doctrine of the two great classicists is always the same – to experience history and play a role in it, to live with one's fellow humans in a constant struggle on the poetic level, to understand them better and help them to understand themselves better".

Elisabeth Boetticher

(Die Welt, 13 November 1972)

■ **PERFORMING ARTS**

Nothing 'provincial' about Wuppertal opera festival

Wuppertal Opera more than any other opera house in the Federal Republic has in recent years fought tooth and nail and without let-up for dramatic realism. This is strictly speaking the provinces, but Wuppertal can give the big cities a lesson with its seriousness and steadfastness, as long as it can shake off any feelings of inferiority.

For Wuppertal has been able to put on productions that would probably not be possible at more fashionable opera houses in this country.

There are many reasons why Wuppertal should have been so successful. For a start the ensemble there is resident and has adjusted itself completely to the working style and artistic creation expected of it.

Theatre-manager Arno Wüstenhofer keeps the company together. Under him they are able to learn from each other and complement each other. His intelligence controls practical work. And the company has been together for close on ten years now.

This continuity rubs off on the audiences as well. There is no didacticism forced on them, but by the power of good example they have gradually come to be educated to a point where their expectations of the opera are not based on what is manifestly "operatic", but on integration and integrity of the musical-theatrical end-product as a whole.

This has always been the goal of Kurt Horres, the Wuppertal opera director, this and another aim – the liberation of the great Classical and newer forms of opera from theatrical clichés that have dragged on for years, clichés that say nothing about the work, but reveal a great deal about our stage traditions.

Horres grabs even weaker works under the shoulders and lifts them off the ground with decisive dramatic revision.

This is a point on which one can convince oneself and overcome scepticism at the "Second Contemporary Musical Drama Week", which is a collection of many of the newer productions of the Wuppertal Opera. It draws a long bow of productions from conventional contemporary opera (Gottfried von Einem's *Besuch der alten Dame*, based on Dürrenmatt's *The Visit*) right down to scenic-musical experimentation (Lars Johan Werle's *Thérèse ein Traum*).

The only premiere at this Week was Antonio Bibalo's Henry Miller opera entitled *Das Lächeln am Fusse der Leiter*. We may remember that Rolf Liebermann came across the work of this completely unknown Italian composer who had sought refuge in a small town in Norway years before. It was published by a Danish music publisher. He gave it its first ever performance at the Hamburg Staatsoper in 1965.

Although the public acclaimed this opera, although performances in Marseilles and Trieste followed, although Liebermann produced his protégé's ballet *Pinocchio* four years later Bibalo has remained an absolute outsider in the music world.

Rightly or wrongly – let us just say here that the audience in Wuppertal were overwhelmed by this performance and clapped their way to 39 curtain calls. Perhaps this is an ideal context in which to view the merits of the unknown Bibalo.

In the second part at least we could see another and more convincing work than that of the Hamburg production. Hamburg's version lasted three hours while Wuppertal made do with two and a quarter. The last two scenes, which diverge from the literary basis and were added to the Miller original by Bibalo, have been dropped by Horres and the conductor Janos Kulka and replaced by a new scene, using the music available from the Bibalo score.

Augusto the dreaming clown who is sacked by the circusmaster no longer has to seek work and a living in a new circus, no longer needs to weep out his sad tale to a street-girl and is no longer inadvertently shot dead by Bibalo's *diabolus ex machina* the policeman. He is allowed to return to the lonely, night-time, moonlit bigtop, and here he comes to the conclusion that his role as a clown has been misunderstood by his public and by himself.

At the end we see him climb the ladder to the aim of his desires, to the moon. Halfway up he stops, clutching the rungs tightly. Is he happy because he has got where he wanted to? Disappointed, because he senses that he will never reach the place he really desires to? Is he released from the pitiful life on Earth? Horres leaves this unanswered. He leaves the story vague, a puzzle, blurred, and thus his staging completely takes on the poetically symbolic style of the Miller story, freed from all Realism.

All in all this production strives to get away from that superficial realism, the steaming smell of the circus that permeated the Hamburg production by Egon Monks.

Augusto is sung by baritone Franz Wyzner with precise, painful penetration. The part is no longer that of a gay-sad melancholic in the circus ring. Horres throws light on the way the clown's Fate drives him to extremities. He makes him into a plagued character pursued by visions of faces, like Wozzeck.

Amid the visions that torment him and turn the circus world into a waxworks of threatening grimaces cross after cross is erected on which the clown sees himself being nailed. He lets himself slide into the role of martyr, of saviour of mankind, manifested for him by his audiences.

Janos Kulka on the rostrum takes over the malleability that the directing has given to the opera newcomer's work and covers up for the weaknesses in masterly fashion.

Peter Dannenberg

(Die Welt, 16 November 1972)

Jutta Renate Ihloff and Franz Wyzner in Bibalo's *Das Lächeln am Fusse der Leiter* (Photo: Kurt Saurin-Sorani)



A scene from Henze's *Undine* produced in Hamburg (Photo: Fritz Peyer)

Bortuluzzi shines in Hamburg production of Henze's *Undine*

Let it be said straight away – the moonlit night of magic at Hamburg's Staatsoper only just came off. But Hans Werner Henze's *Undine* – created in close cooperation with choreographer Frederick Ashton – is among the most beautiful Romantic ballets of recent years.

Those who saw it at London's Covent Garden with Margot Fonteyn as Undine, Michael Somes as Palemon and Alexander Grant as Tirrenio will not forget it so easily. And the successful production by Imres Keres in Lübeck is still fresh in our memory. There Clara Gora danced Undine, and as guest Heinz Clauss danced Tirrenio.

Now as a sign of the times Hans Werner Henze has given the work a new profile of social criticism.

Under Henze's directing Lorca Massine, son of the famous Diaghilev dancer, created a *grand spectacle* with all its disadvantages and very few benefits. The stage became a giant moving tableau. But the massive group of dancers often seemed to be too random. The lines, groups, highspots, massing and dissolution of the groups was often not worked out clearly enough.

Particularly in the ensemble scenes there is often a lack of the forceful essence, the tension of genuine creation. Massine was more successful with the sections that required fewer dancers such as the first meeting between Undine and Palemon.

Massine's choreographic handwriting which is often built up on harmony of movement strongly underlines the play of arms and hands.

But in the course of the evening the constant repetitions and the lack of variations make the ballet tiresome. And the lengths of the individual phases do not banish the danger of boredom setting in, despite a shot of parody.

All in all there is no hiding the fact that Henze's directing and Massine's choreography seem to have been brought out of mothballs. This is dusty old operatic ballet from the turn of the century plus a touch of early Laban.

The more unkind among audience members may have been reminded of practice day at the swimming club – breaststroke only!

The costumes by Henze's brother Jürgen were also not entirely convincing. He, too, is a dancer, leaping from one style to another in his costumes. Dozens of Undines are not everybody's cup of tea and the scientific precision of the submarine life – "all the little fishes are there" – dissipate the scenes rather than outlining them.

The efforts of the underwater creatures to drag the ship down silently are as naive as the pictures in a child's picture-book. "Stormy the night, and high rises the sea . . ." It sounds like the words of some corny old schmalz.

The main character of the new version is no longer the elfin fairytale creature, but Palemon. He is not a shimmering knight of Romanticism, but far more a tormented neurotic with little power of decision-making, dragged hither and thither through the worlds embodied by the two women, and in the end he is destroyed by his own inner strife.

Paolo Bortuluzzi is well on the way to usurping Nureyev's throne. He dances Palemon. But neither the director nor the choreographer give him much of a chance to dance.

But the way he places his feet, controls his leg movements, and flies as weightless as a bird seemingly with no effort is as magnificent as his captivating powers of expression.

Jaqueline Rayet, a well-known guest in Hamburg, danced Undine. She is a well-versed and confident dancer, but she is far too much of this world to be Undine. Not from her cool charm and gracefulness, and secret enticement. But Anita Kristina was excellent in the difficult role of the would-be bride who is jilted.

Leonie Dotzler-Möllering

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 2 November 1972)

■ EDUCATION

Major political parties unclear about universities policy

Only the kindest of observers could find anything like a consistent university education policy in the programmes issued by the political parties. University politics is governed today by a large number of factors and forces and the parties in Bonn are not the most important.

Public interest in universities during the past few years has not prompted the major parties to commit themselves to a clear programme. Interest has now yielded to lethargy — but the sources of conflict still exist.

Everything would only be half so complicated if the differences between the parties in Bonn were the only points at issue. But the differences are just as great if not greater between the Federal states on the one hand, jealously guarding their autonomy on educational matters, and the central government on the other with its demands for a nation-wide standardisation of the university system.

The State treaty recently concluded by the Federal state ministers of education to deal with the subject of admission restrictions has been viewed as a challenge to the central government.

The Bonn Minister of Education and Science felt duped by his party colleagues in the Federal states and his prompt answer was a demand for new powers to be granted to the central government in educational matters.

Astonishingly enough, he can be sure of the moral support of the other political parties in Bonn on this issue. But his colleagues in the Federal states are of a completely different opinion.

A compromise was almost reached in Bonn on a new law defining what powers the central government possessed on university questions. The Bavarian Education Minister then protested and the CDU/CSU beat a hurried retreat. Tactical considerations evidently played a role in view of the general election on 19 November.

But even within party ranks there is not always complete agreement. It is no secret that major differences exist between the Rhineland-Palatinate Education Minsiter Bernhard Vogel, CDU, and his CSU colleague in Bavaria, Professor Hans Maier.

Varying opinions on university questions can also be found among SPD ranks. No party can be described as having a consistent programme on university policy. Only the FDP as a small party has a firm view on education policy.

The real situation at universities is determined today by the Federal states with the help of the university laws already passed or those now being drawn up.

The position of the Social Democrats can be read from the attempts of many SPD-governed states to change their original reform laws after a number of bitter experiences with the wave of left-wing ideology, making them more functional though without perverting the basic principle of a largely autonomous university.

The three-way system of decision-making practised at Bremen University is no longer under consideration within the party. The dominating attitude is for students to have as much of a say as possible and for the authorities to have as much power as necessary.

The SPD and FDP are guided by social ideals in their plans for university reform while the CDU/CSU are aiming at a technicratic reform involving a shorter period of study and a simplification of university administration.

The CDU/CSU's latest moves in this field at Federal state level — the plans for university laws in Bavaria and Schleswig-Holstein — have drawn the harshest conclusions from student unrest and the problems of reformed universities.

Student participation in decision-making is reduced to a minimum so as not to endanger reform proposals. The nation-wide CDU/CSU slogan is first reform the past "irresponsible" and "failed" reforms, then the real reforms can begin.

Here is the real difference between the SPD and FDP on the one hand and the CDU/CSU on the other, even though not all Christian Democrats follow Professor Maier's extremely conservative line.

But the CDU/CSU view is most clearly expressed in Maier's draft university law. Firstly, the political influence of the students is restricted by granting them only minimal participation on university committees, dissolving the once usual form of student representation and tightening up law and order at the universities.

Secondly, universities are subject to greater State influence. While SPD-governed Federal states and a CDU-governed Federal state like Rhineland-Palatinate are satisfied with a mere legal responsibility of the State for the universities and make allowances for the need for closer cooperation between State and university by formulating joint duties, Maier defines the State's duties and practically establishes a specialist committee of inspection.

The FDP has stated its opposition to any regulations relating to order at the universities while the SPD entertains considerable doubts on the issue. But both parties are determined in their opposition to increased State influence in the universities even though they believe that the old autonomy is outdated.

Controversy has so far been limited to questions of university structure. Little

Continued on page 13

Hamburg's US teacher programme succesful, Senator claims

Despite initial difficulties, employing American teachers at Hamburg schools has on the whole proved a success, Education Senator Günter Apel claimed at a recent press conference.

The scheme is to be continued, he stated. Next year another forty to sixty teachers will be recruited in the United States and brought over to this country to make up for the shortage of maths and science teachers.

The first eight or so American teachers arrived in Hamburg in the summer of 1971. A total of 55 have already stayed a year and 47 of them plan to fulfil their two-year contract.

At least ten of these teachers wish to stay longer and two German-Americans have applied for inclusion in the civil service category in which teachers are normally classed.

Hamburg's education authorities state that the employment of American teachers has reduced by twenty per cent the number of mathematics and science lessons cancelled as a result of personnel shortages.

The American teachers spend an average of 18.2 hours a week in the classroom. Twenty-eight of them are already working the 20 to 23 hours a week agreed to as a maximum in their contract.

Intensive language courses have contributed to this success. Difficulties of understanding were the main cause for the initial criticism of the scheme. When recruiting new teachers, special attention will be paid to whether applicants can teach fluently in German. Representatives of Hamburg education authority are currently in the United States selecting new teachers.

Past experience has shown that the American teachers are accepted by pupils. Their humour in particular is welcome. "The pupils' initial scepticism has already turned to admiration," one report claims.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 14 November 1972)

University towns lack sufficient student accommodation

Deutsches Studentenwerk (DSW), the major organisation of the forty or so student associations of this type, has warned the government and political parties that the acute shortage of student accommodation could lead to graduates being unable to attend university for social reasons.

DSW head Professor Thomas Ellwein told the press after the thirtieth assembly of members of his organisation that accommodating students had become the main problem in the social side of further university expansion.

The DSW issued a list of urgent demands in view of the general election that was to follow the conference. They include increased public investment in the building of student hostels, a twenty per cent rise in grants and a binding decision on a sickness insurance scheme for students.

Professor Ellwein stated that in spite of the increased sums pumped into the building of student hostels a number of students who had been admitted to university this winter term have been unable to start their studies as they have not found accommodation.

A large number of students have to travel anything up to 150 kilometres a day between home and university, Professor Ellwein claimed.

Professor Ellwein repeated Education and Science Minister Klaus von Dohnanyi's recent appeal to university towns to allow students to move into houses in redevelopment areas temporarily.

The DSW believes that the new Bundestag must at all costs introduce a compulsory sickness insurance scheme for students. Professor Ellwein claimed that over one hundred thousand students are currently without direct insurance cover.

Professor Ellwein pointed out that a working committee appointed by the Ministry of Labour had already made a proposal to include students in State-run sickness insurance schemes. The Professor stated that the contribution to be paid by the students must be in line with their restricted financial situation.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 11 November 1972)

Guidelines for foreign students

Granting places to foreign students is a vital part of international links maintained by universities in this country, it was stated at the 100th plenary session of the Vice-Chancellors Conference in Bonn.

The Federal states claim that no more than eight per cent of students starting courses on which entry restrictions apply should come from abroad but in its guidelines for the regulations affecting foreign students the Vice-Chancellors Conference calls for this limit to be raised to ten per cent.

Professor Röllecke, head of the Vice-Chancellors Conference, told the press that these guidelines were drawn up in collaboration with the Academic Exchange Service.

Some 23,000 foreigners are currently studying in the Federal Republic. The guidelines stress the need to conclude cultural agreements with foreign States to guarantee equal treatment of foreign students in this country Professor Röllecke stated that the main point of such an agreement was to have qualifications gained in this country generally recognised abroad.

The vice-chancellors also turned to the alien department's treatment of foreign students in this country. They said that the authorities should consult the foreign student's university before taking any steps against him.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 9 November 1972)



■ MEDICINE

Parapsychology expert addresses Stuttgart medical conference

North Württemberg Medical Association championed the cause of parapsychology by inviting Professor Hans Bender of Freiburg to speak at the ninth Stuttgart Advanced Medicine Congress held from 19 to 22 October. Anyone knowing how sceptical doctors are where the supernatural is concerned will appreciate the gesture.

Professor Bender did not make things difficult for his colleagues. He spoke of something every doctor will have experienced at one time or another — the "miracle cure" that occurs for no obvious reason yet far exceeds the success hoped for by therapists.

Phenomena of this type cannot be entirely explained by science as we know it today but they can be accurately described — as Professor Bender proceeded to do. As definition is the beginning of every science, it can be assumed that we shall know more about the causes of these miracle cures in one or two generations.

North Württemberg's doctors have therefore taken a step into the future. But during the rest of the congress they dealt solely with the present. No more than a brief outline of topics discussed can be provided here.

Two lectures about the problems of old folks and their doctors reminded delegates that more and more people today were living to a ripe old age. But old age is still surrounded by ignorance. Many ideas about it are erroneous.

The life expectancy of the average Central European has increased by thirty years since the turn of the century, though this is not always to the advantage of the elderly. Geriatrics is still in its infancy and the psychological side still requires further research.

People must be prepared for their old age. On top of this geriatricians must today cope with decidedly sociological problems, as Professor Böhlau of Frankfurt pointed out.

Professor von Kress of Berlin turned to another, more serious aspect of growing old. More and more illnesses affect the elderly and though doctors are able to take measures against sudden death there is the justifiable question of what action should be taken. The desire to help at all costs could under certain circumstances only prolong the agony of death.

Doctors are faced by problems they have never had to deal with before. There is for instance the question of whether it is reasonable, humane and medically conrrect to raise hopes by prescribing transfusions for anaemic patients and whether doctors should prescribe cytostatics for incurable cancer cases to delay though not avert death. These are only two examples but they highlight the conflict the doctor must always have with his conscience.

If the elderly have their problems, so do the young. Professor Lempp of Tübingen spoke of "the pathogenic importance of partial weaknesses in performance for mental development and the ways to diagnose and treat it".

This subject covers areas that would have been completely incomprehensible to our grandparents. The rough and ready methods of solving all young people's problems sixty years ago are no longer valid today.

A term like dyslexia needed long and painstaking explanation before even the basics became clear. It seems to be caused by a psychological variation of the much-vaunted "environmental crisis".

Adolescents find it increasingly difficult to identify themselves with the demands of their environment. Even infants are affected by difficulties of concentration and other social complaints leading to a drop in performance and, in serious cases, to total failure in face of the social system.

Conditions of this type can be treated by catching up on what has been neglected in the past. Methods employed include play therapy, remedial gymnastics, special teaching and, above all, the systematic development of the child's reasoning abilities. Growing up, like growing old, is becoming more and more of a scientific task in contemporary society and is losing its matter-of-fact character.

Professor Marquadt, the Stuttgart orthopaedist, touched upon various aspects of juvenile medicine when he probed the reasons for deformities among the young and found that a number of causes such as child labour, famine, rickets and an inadequate diet in infancy no longer crop up today. But hereditary diseases still play a role.

Special attention must be paid in our age of quick growth to damage occurring during the various phases of growth. Deformities include scoliosis (a sideways curvature of the spine), Schlatter's disease, Scheuermann's disease as well as damage to joints and preliminary stages of arthrosis.

Professor Palme of Berlin works at the Free University's clinic at Steglitz and told the congress that liver complaints were increasing at an alarming rate.

This year it is expected that the medical services will have to treat ten million patients. Ten per cent of them will be new cases. Cases of death resulting from cirrhosis of the liver have quadrupled in the last twenty years. This, Professor Palme claimed, was linked with the rise in the consumption of alcohol.

The Professor dealt at length with the "decompensated liver" syndrome. The performance of the liver cells drops, their functional capacity is restricted and there is a pressure rise in the portal veins.

Treatment must take place at a hospital. Diet plays an important, though no longer a predominant role. All alcohol consumption must be avoided. The drug treatment is most important and doctors must be careful not to prescribe medicaments that could prove toxic to the liver.

Walter Srbinik

(Deutsche Zeitung, 10 November 1972)

Continued from page 12

attention has been paid to the problems involved in study reform. The dispute between the parties about the composition of the study reform commission indicates that the two sides will not be any more united when discussions turn to what ought to be taught.

This will once again prove that education policy more than any other political sphere is dominated by the parties' traditional ideological opinions.

Malte Buschbeck

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 13 November 1972)

■ EATING OUT

Snack bars conquer Europe

Instead of waiting for the waiter people stand in a queue and serve themselves. Instead of having a napkin and laid table one eats from a tray – a McDonald's Hamburger costs one Mark or 1.90 for a double portion. A poster claims: "The new way of eating cheaply". In the background light music is played, seductively urging people to spend money. This is the American way of eating available in Giesing, Munich.

All over the world the American quick snack bar idea is catching on, offering meals that can be served quickly at a table or a bar or taken home. The menu is chicken or a hamburger with chips, milk shakes or ice-cold Cola.

Seven years ago Colonel Sanders set out to conquer the Old World, Africa, Australia and Asia with his *Kentucky Fried Chicken*. Recently he opened his 379th establishment outside the United States. McDonald's Corporation which considers itself to be the largest chain of snack bars in the world began fifteen month ago to tackle markets outside the States.

Within eight months the corporation which has 2,100 establishments within America and 120 snack bars outside the US opened three snack bars in Munich. This corporation claims to sell tasty hamburgers and chips to five million people daily.

Bob Gibson, head of the McDonald branch in Giesing, said: "Munich was a trial run for us, because Bavarians do not take readily to different eating habits."

The trial run turned out well. By the end of next year it is hoped that there will be twelve McDonald Corporation snack bars in Munich. Two more are planned for Cologne and Stuttgart. Kentucky fried chicken is already available at ten snack bars in the Federal Republic – in Munich, Frankfurt and Offenbach.

Manfred Gudella, head of the *Fast-Food* chain overseas – the chain specialises in serving quick, inexpensive tasty meals – said: "Other countries have been having the same developments in living style as we in America over the past few years."

Shortages of time, capital and personnel have been to the advantage of snack bars generally, particularly as regards turnover. In 1971 the average turnover of a McDonald snack bar was $455,000 per year whilst ordinary American restaurants only did $75,000 worth of business. The mass turnover was achieved because of low prices. A hungry person is well satisfied with a double hamburger and a cheeseburger for 4.20 Marks or a Kentucky box which includes three pieces of chicken, potato puree with chicken sauce or chips, salad and desert for 4.60 Marks.

All establishments abroad of course buy supplies locally but McDonald hamburgers throughout the world are the same size, have the same weight and contain the same proportion of fat and meat, the same number of gherkins onions, ketchup and mustard.

Thanks to an individual recipe all chickens sold in Fast-Food snack bars are seasoned with eleven different kinds of herbs. In consequence the head of the organisation can proudly say: "Kentucky chickes tastes the same in Manila as it does in Manhatten."

Bob Gibson of McDonald's said: "In Munich we have found a baker who bakes according to our recipe and cutting with a machine we imported from America." The only problems they have are with the Big Macs because they do not have the special knives needed to cut this item on the menu.

And then there are language difficulties with Big Mac. In Paris for instance. The French translation of Big Mac means pimp, so it is left in English on the menu. American eating habits are not always accepted without protest. The most popular food in Italy is pasta. A lorry driver in Rome commented: "Maybe American women eat hamburgers in order to remain slim. I prefer my wife to be well-rounded though so she can without any worry eat spaghetti every day." Fast-Food executives comment that the Japanese do not like potato puree and only ask for chips. In McDonald establishments in American nothing stronger than milk shakes and Cola are served, but in France customers expect wine and beer. In the Federal Republic working men complain if they have to drink their beer from paper cartons. The McDonald idea of a drive-in restaurant has had to be forgotten because it is impossible for five people to eat a meal in a Volkswagen.

One form of restaurant in the Federal Republic is offering the American snack bar a fair amount of competition – the steak house. Throughout the country from Munich to Hamburg there are restaurants that are doing well, partly as a result of the keep fit and eat sensibly national slimming campaigns that serve low caloric food, fillets with salad and French or Rocquefort dressing. Owners of these establishments can expect to do well since over the past twenty years the average consumption of meat per head has doubled in this country from 10.8 kilograms to 21.8 kilograms.

But American restaurateurs have come up with a new idea – all-you-can-eat establishments. In such a restaurant in Los Angeles a customer can eat as much as he wants for $1.55. *Sabine Reuter*

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 10 November 1972)

Too fat

People in the Federal Republic eat too much. Sixty five per cent of citizens in this country are overweight according to the latest surveys. Estimates show that 41 per cent of those overweight have at least ten per cent too much flesh on their bones.

These disturbing statistics were issued recently by the advisory centre on slimming problems in Frankfurt.

In the past eighteen months more than 200,000 people have consulted the centre on problems of overweight, asking for tips as to how to get rid of excess flab.

(Nordwest Zeitung, 27 October 1972)



One of the exhibits at the Cologne fair

(Photo: Messe und Ausstellungs Ges.m.b.H. Köln)

Snack bar fair in Cologne

More and more attention is being paid by industry to the facilities provided for workers to eat during the working day. In Cologne from 12 to 15 November an exhibition and fair was staged showing the latest developments in snack bars and quick-service grills.

In the Federal Republic more than twelve million people daily are fed in canteens, small restaurants and snack bars.

According to statistics issued by the snack bar owners association, Hamburg, there are in the Federal Republic approximately 32,000 snack bars pure and simple, 2,800 butchers shops that have a snack bar attached, 2,600 restaurants with a snack bar attached and an estimated 2,100 foodstores with snack bar facilities.

Since 1967 the annual turnover of snack bars in this country has increased from something like three to ten milliard Marks, which indicates that more than 5.5 million Marks are paid out daily for meals in snack bars and similar establishments. Surveys have shown that because more and more women are going out to work by 1980 more than 60 per cent of all people in jobs will be eating away from home at some time during the day.

Industry has not been slow to note the trend and is producing in ever greater choice ready-cooked or partly cooked meals that can be served without too much delay. In the same way snack bars are able to prepare meals quickly by using pre-packed spices and sauces that come in cartons, tubes, tins and glass bottles.

New methods of preserving foods enable snack bars to provide meals with a minimum of labour and utilising a minimum space for cooking.

In Cologne 315 exhibitors, 65 from abroad, have displayed their wares for the latest in snack bars and quick service restaurants. Everything is on show from knives and forks to the latest equipment for washing crockery and systems for controlling supplies and sales.

(Die Welt, 13 November 1972)

Diet expert looks for something different to eat

In room 412 of the Federal Agriculture Ministry in Bonn a revolution in the menus offered to citizens in the Federal Republic has been set in motion. Suggestions for changes in the eating habits of people in this country have been made by Dr Günter Reinken, head of the 'ideas' department of the Ministry. He is of the opinion that, "Our diet is too monotonous – potatoes, bread, pork, beef and chicken. The ingredients of our cuisine are always the same."

He wants to give the palate of people in this country something new to taste. He is investigating things like quail, mushrooms and Chinese cabbage. All can be "very promising".

Dr Reinken says "let's have something new more often". But he is not out to diminish the pleasure in eating. He also has the farmers' best interests in mind. He said: "We have plenty of grain and butter. The prices farmers receive for these products are poor. And competition among other EEC agricultural countries is intense."

Dr Reinken suggests that to remedy the situation, "Our farmers should give less attention to basic foodstuffs and concentrate more on foodstuffs with a difference. By producing specialities they can earn more."

Experts in Bonn are aware that in other countries there is a wide range of different foods available – different fruits and vegetables as well as different meats such as elephant steaks and kangaroo tails.

The Ministry in Bonn has initiated a number of tests and surveys concerning different foods. Dr Reinken's intention is to present a total survey which would include breeding as well as economic considerations and publicity. He also proposes to produce menus for the new basic foodstuffs he would recommend. He said: "We can only get farmers interested when we give them a programme that goes into the last detail."

The Bonn research organisation has gone into a new mushroom from Hungary that could tickle the palate. This kind of mushroom usually grows on trees. Experts have been able to grow them in boxes. When these were offered to tasters fried the mushrooms tasted like a slice of veal.

At a farm near Krefeld 100 guinea fowl are being reared. Dr Reinken assures us that "these are much more delicate tasting than ordinary chicken."

In a Bonn university institute quail are being reared. Their eggs are smaller than an ordinary hen's egg but they also have a sharper taste. Dr Reinken said: "At the most in two years' time people will be eating a quail egg as a special delicacy for Sunday morning breakfast." Providing quail and guinea fowl eggs should mean that people would eat more than the average 271 chicken eggs per year they are now eating. And experiments have already begun with fat-free ducks from Asia.

Dr Reinken is not at all happy with the meat-eating habits of people in this country. Every Frenchman eats 60 times more rabbit than the average citizen in this country. He wants to stimulate interest in rabbit and pigeon, and he adds that the entire mutton production of the Rhineland could be exported to Paris and sold there. "They know how good it tastes," he comments. *Bernd Lamark*

(Neue Ruhr Zeitung, 11 November 1972)

■ SPORT

Helmut Schön – a trainer with a style of his own

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

Were Helmut Schön to have been asked a year ago by Robert Lembke, TV compere of the German-language version of "What's My Line?" to perform a mime typical of his profession, he would have had to extend both arms in front of him in an obvious gesture warding off the press.

Nowadays the tale is a little different. Since winning the European championship title this spring Helmut Schön, senior coach to the Football Association and trainer of the national soccer team, has gained tremendously in self-assurance.

This new-found self-confidence was amply evident at the recent international against Switzerland in Düsseldorf.

Of his predecessor, Sepp Herberger, it could be said that the man had made history, if only on the football field. In Schön's case it would be more accurate to say that football success has made the man.

For many years Schön felt himself to be under attack from all sides. As soon as anyone spoke to him he went on to the all-round defensive. "What *do* you want now?" he would ask after press conferences, "I have already told you everything."

His relationship with the press is charasteristic of one of football's most sensitive trainers, and the number of clashes he has had with journalists is legion.

People present at the time will be unlikely ever to forget his reaction on hearing that the headline in one popular paper after a goalless draw against Albania in Tirana had been "Let Merkel (another prominent trainer) Have A Go." His exchange of words with the reporter of that particular paper was indeed florid.

Helmut Schön can still not be described as thick-skinned but he does make an appearance that is more definite, more self-assured. In the past you could be almost certain that his wife sifted callers before replying on the phone that she was terribly sorry but her husband had just gone out for a walk with the poodle Nicki.

During the eight years he has held his present position Helmut Schön has, when all is said and done, notched up more successes than virtually any trainer in the world.

A second and third place in World Cups and a European championship title are unusual achievements for a trainer accused, after the World Cup qualifying game against Scotland in autumn 1969, of not even being worth a B ticket (which would entitle him to train a regional league team).

Schön took over the job as a not uncontroversial figure and, moreover, at a juncture at which the introduction of the Federal league had completely changed the atmosphere of football in this country.

He had a hard time with the old hands who were accustomed to being given orders by Herberger, Schön preferring to persuade. Players frequently took this for weakness and this view is reinforced by his procrastination.

Apparent indecision was in point of fact Schön's fear of hurting people by telling them that they had not been selected. He found it difficult to summon up the courage to tell players in time. He underestimated the ability of professional footballers to take bad news like a man.

With the years he has learnt how to come to terms with the unpleasant aspects of his job. In the cases of Günter Netzer and Erwin Kremers, tricky ones too, he showed a refreshingly pragmatic approach. Both men had been determined never to play for Schön as trainer again but Schön did not hold it against them when they returned to the fold.

Schön well realised that not only players are dependent on the trainer; the trainer is also dependent on his player-material.

Nasty comments have been made about Helmut Schön. He has disregarded them all. They said he was just lucky and had never had to fight to win. He remained unmoved. They said his teams needed no selection, being more or less self-evident. He refrained from comment.

Only when Dettmar Cramer, FIFA coach, turned against him in public at Mexico in 1970 was Schön unwilling to make a conciliatory gesture a week later. "No Dettmar," he said, "you really can't expect me to shake hands with you now."

The European championship and the fame it brought with it have made a new man of Helmut Schön. Until then he had only been second-best, a mere shadow of the legendary Sepp Herberger, his predecessor.

Schön is still a long way off drawing level with Herberger as far as legend goes but he has improved in one respect. He seldom laughs but recently was delighted by a journalist's imitation of Herberger's Southern dialect. Not long ago the same performance would have seemed to strike terror into his heart.

One listener confidentially informed him that there were people who now imitated his, Schön's, accent. Perhaps he will be prepared to accept that his popularity too is now growing.

Gerd Krug

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 11 November 1972)



Helmut Schön talking to journalists

(Photo: dpa)

Top flight sport overrated, Vetter claims

Heinz Oskar Vetter, chairman of the Trades Union Confederation (DGB), has sharply criticised the extent to which top-flight competitive sport is overrated in this country.

At the sixteenth annual conference of local sports authorities in Leverkusen Vetter noted that the Munich Olympics had cost more than 2,000 million Marks and that "expensive edifices" were being constructed in preparation for the 1974 soccer World Cup.

Yet everywhere, he added, there is a shortage of gymnasiums and swimming baths for the general public and in many schools sport is sadly neglected.

Top-rank athletes are, he said, accorded spoilt-child status even though they can no longer be rated a model of good conduct for young people.

Among top-flight athletes an "alarming subordination" of personality to long and strenuous training schedules has emerged, the trade union leader claimed. Even trainers are already talking in terms of assembly-line production.

Willi Daume, president of the organising committee for the Munich Olympics, countered that Vetter's criticism was in part unwarranted. The sports facilities built in both Munich and Kiel were designed primarily with their post-Olympic uses in mind.

On the basis of past experience, Herr Daume maintained, the Olympics would have substantial repercussions on sport for the general public. "And if it is true to say that top-rank athletes are accorded spoilt-child status," he added, "not sport but the general public are to blame."

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 3 November 1972)

Rüdiger Schmidtke – new European light-heavyweight champion

Rüdiger Schmidtke put up his arms in delight and ran over to his seconds Wolfgang Müller and Karl Mildenberger. With ten seconds of the twelfth round left to go Swiss referee Lefchot had broken off the European championship bout between Chris Finnegan and the Federal Republic challenger in Schmidtke's favour.

The few Federal Republic fans who had travelled to London and Wembley to be among the 8,000 or so spectators shared the jubilation of Rüdiger Schmidtke, the new European heavyweight professional boxing champion.

This last-minute turn of events came as a disappointment to supporters of the local boy since Schmidtke had not looked anything like a convincing winner and it took two straight rights of particular force for the referee to reach a decision that was perfectly in order even though Schmidtke could count himself lucky to win by a technical knockout.

The first blow cut Finnegan's nose, the second opened and deepened the cut. The ring doctor did not intervene to break off the bout but referee Lefchot put an end to the bloodshed.

Neither Schmidtke nor Finnegan put up outstanding performances. They did, however, fight fairly and the referee



(Photo: dpa)

hardly needed to intervene, both boxers keeping their distance.

Schmidtke's blows were more accurate, Finnegan's more frequent, but both were so harmless that neither man was ever in serious danger.

According to ex-European champion Henry Cooper, the BBC commentator, Finnegan was leading by 53 – 51 points when the referee stopped fighting. There was thus not much to choose between the two of them.

Finnegan was obviously still suffering from the after-effects of a tough bout seven weeks beforehand against world champion Bob Foster of the United States. In that bout Finnegan had leasted fourteen rounds before being knocked out. Against Schmidtke he seemed inhibited and by no means as explosive as usual.

"Schmidtke is a shrewd opponent alright," Chris Finnegan said in the changing-room after the fight. "Apart from the blow that did the damage he never really hit me, yet he was too nippy for me to get a blow in either."

The championship win represented a twofold record for this country. Schmidtke is the tenth German to win the European championship title in this weight category and the twenty-fifth professional boxer from this country to win a European belt.

In the Frankfurt boxer's changing-room the jubilation was subdued. Schmidtke, who only led on points between the fifth and ninth rounds, himself admitted that "A win of this kind does not entirely satisfy me, though I had expected Finnegan to be tougher. I reckon I had more in reserve in the final round than he had though. He is certainly welcome to a return bout, but the formalities first need discussing of course."

(Die Welt, 16 November 1972)